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UPPER COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT PROJECT

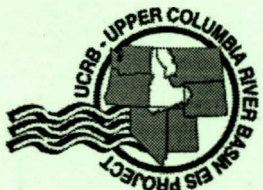
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# TELECONFERENCE SCOPING MEETING JANUARY 28, 1995

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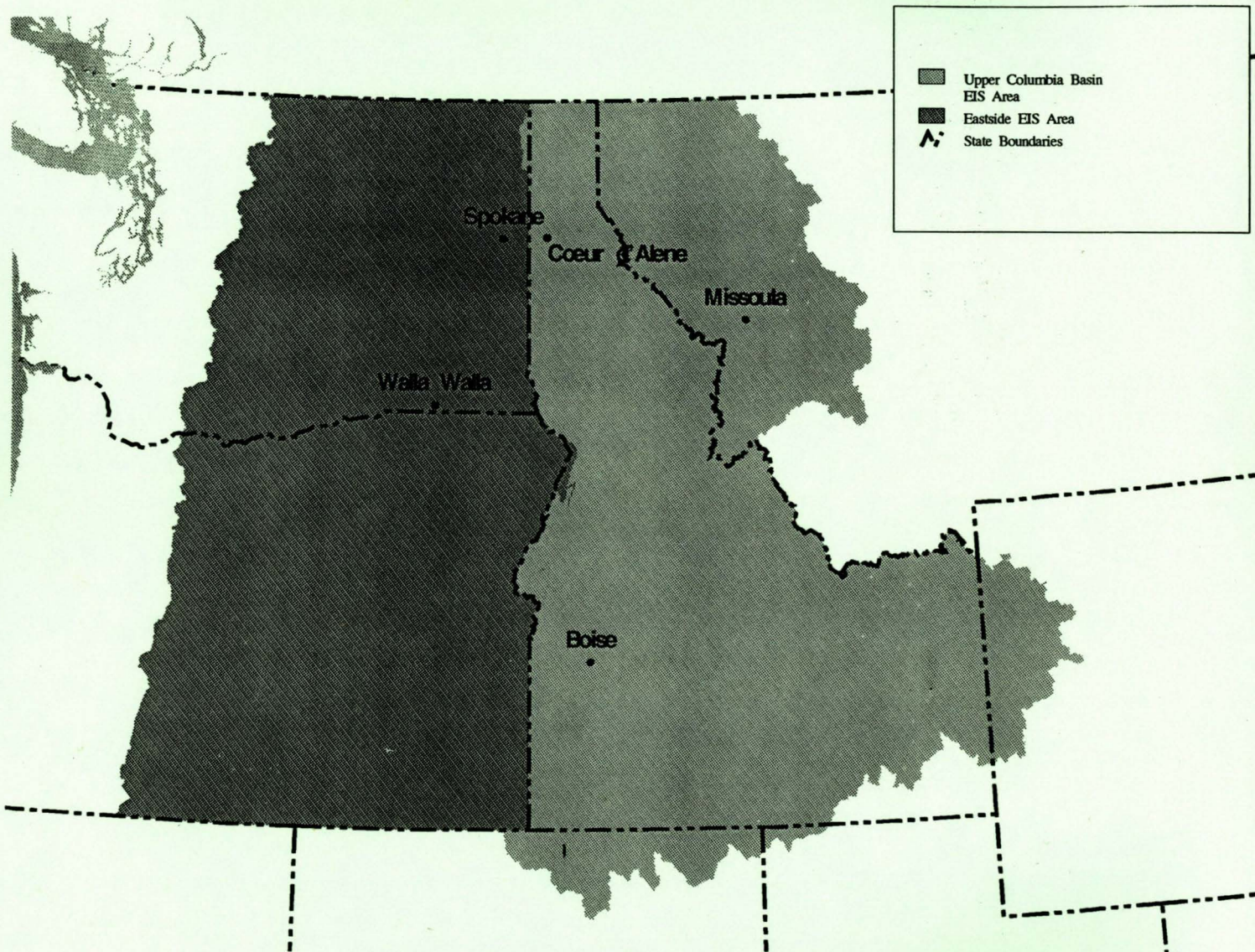


USDA  
FOREST SERVICE



APRIL 1995

# INTERIOR COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN EIS AREAS



**UCRBits** -- Are trivia about the Upper Columbia River Basin. These *bits* are compliments of Microsoft (R) Encarta. Copyright © 1994 Microsoft Corporation. Copyright © 1994 Funk & Wagnall's Corporation.



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**A MESSAGE FROM  
THE PROJECT MANAGER,  
STEPHEN P. MEALEY**

**WHAT'S INSIDE . . .**

*Dear Friend,*

*We heard you, and as promised, this document contains the comments you and about 1,000 others made at the January 28 video teleconference scoping session for the Upper Columbia River EIS. They're in three categories:*

- 1. The Purpose and Need Comments*
- 2. The Proposed Action Comments*
- 3. Other Issues/Concerns*

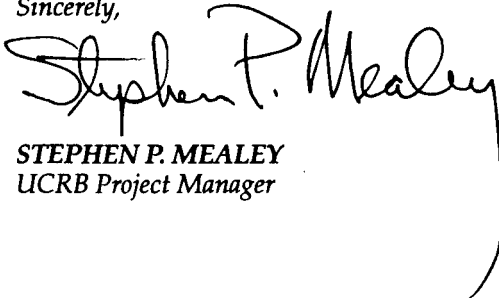
*I'm sure you won't be surprised to learn that opinions and desired outcomes for this project differ. You may be surprised that some of the concerns you expressed are shared by others across the region!*

*I commend you for participating. All of the team members have been extremely pleased at the quantity and substance of the comments we received. To date we have analyzed more than 5,000, all a direct result of the January 28th meeting. Additional comments received will be analyzed after April 13, 1995, the end of the formal comment period.*

*Based on your comments and others, plus our best scientific assessments and analyses, we'll display a wide range of alternatives. Then, we'll work for a decision that reflects one, or a mixture of all alternatives.*

*Thank you for sharing your thoughts and concerns with us. Please continue to do so.*

*Sincerely,*



**STEPHEN P. MEALEY**  
UCRB Project Manager

**This** publication lists all of the comments received during the facilitated portion of the Upper Columbia River Basin Scoping meeting on January 28, 1995. Your comments are typed as they appeared on the flip charts. The comments are being analyzed and summarized into issues for the Environmental Impact Statement. Alternatives will be developed that address those issues.

The participants' names were typed directly from the signatures on the attendance lists. Some signatures were hard to transcribe so there may be some errors in the spelling. If we have misspelled your name, please call or write and we will correct it in our records.

Some people voiced concerns about preregistering for the teleconference. Our goal was to accommodate as many people as possible. The preregistration numbers were used to decide if other downlink sites was necessary. Our intent was not to limit attendance but to ensure there were places for all.

The questions that surfaced during the scoping meeting have been collected and a revised question and answer sheet will be available at a later date.

If this publication has generated more questions please refer those to the public affairs team associated with the UCRB project. The address is:

UCRB EIS Project  
304 N. Eighth Street, Rm 250  
Boise, ID 83702

(208) 334-1770  
Fax (208) 334-1769



**NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI)**  
Notice placed in *Federal Register*  
that Forest Service and BLM  
intend to prepare an EIS  
December 7, 1994



**SCOPING**  
Public invited to identify  
potential issues, concerns, and  
opportunities for the EIS  
to formulate alternatives  
January - April 1995



**DRAFT EIS**  
Fall, 1995



**Public Comment Period**  
45 days from notice of Draft EIS  
availability in *Federal Register*  
November - December 1995



**Analysis of  
Public Comments**  
January 1996



**Preparation of Final EIS**  
February - June 1996



**Final EIS and  
Record of Decision (ROD)**  
Anticipated July 1996

**The Upper Columbia River Basin Environmental Impact Statement** scoping meeting was held in 27 cities on January 28, 1995 live via satellite. Two additional meetings were held in Salmon and Challis, Idaho February 21 and 22, respectively. We used this medium so many communities could participate simultaneously. The Upper Basin is a large area, covering 73,000 square miles, and it would have taken at least two months for the EIS team to cover the same 27 cities.

The teleconference originated from Boise State University and anyone with access to a satellite dish within the continental United States could view it. Some people watched the teleconference via home satellite dishes. This, along with broadcasting on three public access networks in the Upper Basin, expanded the potential participation to many thousands. The formal sessions were attended by a total of 928 people.

The goal of the teleconference was to illustrate the project and to collect comments and concerns about future management of National Forest and Bureau of Land Management lands. The live afternoon session highlighted concerns and issues expressed at many of the downlink sites and responses to them.

Video copies of the teleconference are available for loan from local Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service offices throughout the Basin.



# THIS IS WHAT WE HEARD...

## BONNER'S FERRY

### PARTICIPANTS

CARL DAHLBERG  
INA PLUID  
BILL LARUE  
MERLE DINNING  
DON NYSTROM  
SAM FODGE  
KIM PLUID  
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ELMER SMITH  
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STEVE TANNER  
CHUCK ROADY  
PETER B. WILSON  
TERRY HOWL  
ROBERT T. NELSON  
PATRICIA A. NELSON

### PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

Recognize modern logging practices are better and more ecologically sound. Base conclusions on changes, not on what happened 20 years ago.

Need to add and use thinning before prescribed fire can be used.

Need to recognize many different ways to solve problems- not just scientific view.

Human needs - recognize LOCAL economic & recreation needs.

Add education of urban communities about natural resources and economic effects.

Should be flexible to accommodate new technology, information.

Some species will go extinct: we can't save them all.

Needs to be written from the bottom up.

Concerned that the science team will reflect their own personal beliefs and values regardless of how they deny it -- resulting in biased reports.

Need more selective harvest of timber. Some areas never entered and cleaned up.

Keep roads open and build new roads to enter all forests.

It seems to be on target, but needs to assure sustainable levels of fish, wildlife, water quality, and human needs.

Due to the scope of the project, it is moving too quickly.

If and how will Idaho Fish and Game and other agencies be involved in the EIS, starting with the Purpose and Need? Also, Army Corps of Engineers, Fish & Wildlife Service, and other federal agencies.

We are dealing with a huge area. How are site-specific issues going to be fit into the Purpose and Need?

The end result should assure local (rural) way of life be maintained like it is now, as close as possible.

Should major ecosystem impacts (dams, mining, super fund sites, etc) be addressed and integrated?

Nonnative fish introductions have caused serious effects on native species.

Sediment must be controlled for water quality and fish populations.

Regulate flows through dams to prevent destroying LOCAL fisheries and erosion.





PURPOSE AND NEED

We need manageable populations of wildlife.

Basic distrust of Forest Service people making decisions, starting at District Ranger level and above. It gets changed by higher level politics.

Who will review the scientific data?

Independent review of data outside the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

What will data be based on and how far back in time do we go?

Consider noxious weeds invasions into forest habitat as well as range.

Access to public forest is being severely reduced.

Need more balance in FS employees and their area of expertise.

Will assessment of human needs be local or regional scale? And how large?

How will Boise meet unique needs specific to this area?

This ecosystem approach (UCRB) is good idea on paper, but local county residents want more say in management.

Consider major population increases and impact on resources in rural areas.

Higher per capita use and higher expectations of quality.

Totally disagree with purpose and need. The project won't work because large government public land should be put into private hands.

Picture painted by video, that European man has caused problems, is not true. In fact, some positive things have been done.

We should be harvesting dead, down, and dying timber and restore forest health.

Controlled burning should be used to clean up forests.

PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

PROPOSED ACTION

Confusing because human needs not a separate discussion like in purpose and need.

Goal should be on social and economic status of humans in the area. Then develop ecological needs from that.

Should not authorize reintroduction of Threatened or Endangered species -- without a separate EIS.

Page 6, Goal 5 -- too weak. More emphasis on access to public lands, including for handicapped.

In sensitive areas, use alternative logging methods such as winter logging.

Need emphasis on noxious weeds -- especially knapweed and star thistle.

We need faster recovery of dead and down timber.

Proposed action is not localized and is too bureaucratic. Too broad.

Take down the majority of gates and restore public access.

We need multi-age stands if forest to get away from even-aged management.

Do not promote tourism and recreation in all areas.

Local people should control.

Keep sustainability of timber, water, wildlife, soils, etc which are essential to our economic viability.

Local communities should be included in economic impacts, decisions, and evaluations.

Timber sales priorities should consider local economies first.

If timber sales are reduced, need to restructure the 25% Payment in Lieu of Taxes funds back to counties. To maintain government contribution towards local schools/roads.

Address all salvage sales immediately before it loses its value - before this Draft EIS comes out.

More profitable / addresses forest health.

Manage balanced recreation program to allow access to public lands.

Base actions on sound science that is pertinent to the issue.

Riparian Zones of small and large streams should be "no enter" zones to assure natural shade & debris, etc. For erosion control.

Communicate with Canada on what we are both doing.

Fire salvage as part of the management decision.  
Railroad land grant harvest needs better utilization.

Better utilization and opportunities to obtain firewood on national forests.  
Federal lands should be systematically conveyed into private property for forest health.

Objective of range at 75% may not be achievable - need studies first.

Large sales to be purchased by multinationals, large groups should be eliminated. We need more small sales, purchased by independent loggers.

Some sales can be too small to be efficient.

Disagree with objectives for some stand conditions, for example ponderosa pine is not allowed second growth harvest. Maybe all old growth, can't harvest, and more susceptible to disease.

Disagree with use of fire to solve health problem of forests.



All objectives should address noxious weeds: ie., control, management, monitoring.

Recognize good logging operators and good management and have more penalties for jobs poorly done.

Apportion some sales to small local purchasers.

Design alternative methods other than prescribed fire to reach the same objectives. Mulch slash and other products rather than use prescribed fire.

Fuelbreaks throughout forest.

Salvage sales should occur earlier rather than waiting until it is too late.

Address Kokanee salmon management.

Need to revise appeal process.

Make it easier to salvage burned timber.

Appellants should be required to disclose names of their [group] members.

Wildlife needs should not be more important than people.

Laws applying to grizzly are wrong. Need to be able to protect self and be safe in forest. Need balance - human rights too!

I thought Forest Plans set management direction.

Noxious Weeds

If water is TOO CLEAN, it won't have enough nutrients for fish.

Boundaries on streams to prevent logging to bank.

Explain why 1910 fires in northern Idaho were any different from modern catastrophic fire - what kinds of trees were here then but aren't now?

Aquatic - did not address human needs.

Don't plant sagebrush, or reintroduce species that aren't useful.

Too much emphasis on fire - need different approach in moist North Idaho where fires are infrequent.

Need separate EIS to evaluate drawdowns.

Doesn't address springs, seeps, wetland. Need to identify and protect them.

Concerned this will authorize more access - result in more impact to wildlife.

Need another way for federal government to replace the 25% fund so as not to foster dependency on timber harvest receipts.

PROPOSED ACTION

No timber sale is too small to be effective in meeting desired management for a particular piece of ground.

Congress needs to restrict log export due to 1864 Railroad Grant Act, and export only finished lumber.

We are importing a lot of foreign lumber, especially Canadian, replacing U.S. Harvested timber.

OTHER ISSUES

OTHER ISSUES

How does the UCRB EIS affect Forest Plans?

How will the Fish & Game, Bureau of Mines, and other agencies fit in/ coordinate with the UCRB EIS?

Are the FS and BLM the only 2 agencies getting direction from this process?

How can you manage an ecosystem by splitting between Eastside EIS and UCRB EIS?

How will conflicts between local and "downstream" values be addressed and resolved?

Has this, or will this, project be adequately funded?

EIS should be done before introducing endangered species.

If you analyze salmon, analyze drawdowns too.

If artificial method (example, hatchery) will work, use it. Doesn't have to be "natural".

Get rid of squawfish and other predators.

Don't allow so much fluctuation between high and low flows on dammed streams - damages streambanks and fisheries.

Need more and cheaper firewood.

Consider private costs as result of decisions. For example, impact to drainage district from drawdowns.

Need more education of urban public about resource management and consequences.

Forestry should be managed more like farming.

All issues need to be addressed by EIS Team, not just those from this meeting. Idaho Fish and Game has too much power.



Everyone, including federal agencies, should follow same rules, not make them up as you go.

Culture and customs and economics, of each community need to be recognized.

Species becoming extinct or endangered is a long time and natural process. We should not base our forest practices on animal or plant species. Man has improved habitats by timber management.

Core reserves are important to man and environment and need to be maintained.

FS employees should not be rewarded monetarily for finding sensitive plant or animals.

T&E species recovery plans should be revised to determine if viability has been achieved or if it's even possible.

What is cumulative effect of paperwork used on this UCRB project?

How do other agencies fit in?

How will you ensure enforcement of what is planned and funded to be implemented?

Canadian portion and effects on the ecosystem must be considered and integrated - coordination, regulations, management...

Don't use jargon and abbreviations.

Who will make economic evaluations/assessments for local communities?

Where did the quote "Sales dropped 26 percent in 20 years" come from in the videotape [at the beginning of the video conference]. Seems like the statistic should be higher, like 75 percent.

What is the plan for the change in how the agencies account for fire patterns in the ecosystem (frequency, etc)?

How will the visual resource management be accommodated; ie gas line installation? [Probably reference to the PGT/PGE natural gas transmission line which enters the US in Boundary County and continues through the NW to California]

How will wildlife corridors be managed? What will be done, i.e. wolf corridors.

How will "Mother Nature" be controlled or considered in the plan? Nature is the ultimate control - volcanoes, floods - humans not in total control.

Consider how recreation can solve problems versus viewing recreation as a management problem. i.e. education program, awareness of public.

# BOISE

## PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

### PARTICIPANTS

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EIS must address the situation that there are over 900 stream segments of concern under the Clean Water Act. Land management needs to bring water quality into fishable/swimmable compliance under the Clean Water Act.

Emphasize long-term management (50 years), but build in ways to adjust or adapt as you discover what is working and what is not.

Purpose: Restore prudent long-term land management of public wild lands (every acre on landscape).

- a. Get out of no action gridlock, pseudo-wilderness, get back to multiple use through ecosystem management to meet economic, social, and biological needs.
- b. Stop the waste of valuable natural resources, both biological and commodities.

Need: The tremendous destructive consequences of "No Management" was demonstrated in the catastrophic insect/wild fires of 1994 and resulted in widescale (landscape) loss of:

- a. Watersheds equals
- b. Sedimentation equals
- c. Degraded aquatic habitat
- d. Critical big game and wildlife habitat (especially winter range)
- e. Recreation loss, visual impact
- f. Loss of timber resource, forest productivity, related jobs, income to counties, schools, and US treasury.

Need philosophical agreement as to overriding common goals and it must be acknowledged in writing (i.e. is the land to be managed or unmanaged? This is a strategic goal). If people or agencies have different goals, then it is unlikely that they can ever agree on tactics and management objectives.

All land and resources should be managed for the long-term. Short term corrections can be made as science dictates.

- a. streams - clean out, introduce ???????
- b. Timber - allowable cut calculations need long-term acreage and timber volume stability
- c. recreation - dams and impoundments recreation vs. wild streams

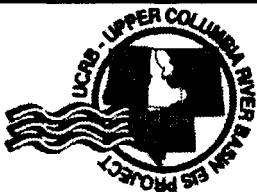
Need to include entire Columbia River as a tentacle of the Eastside ecosystem.

Long term must eliminate:

- a. pendulum management
- b. boom or bust
- c. politically correct

We need to make decisions and proceed from there, instead of the gridlock that has become the rule. Federal agencies need to cooperate instead of going in different directions.

Change the Endangered Species Act.





**PARTICIPANTS  
CONTINUED...**

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STEVE KAISER  
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BILL GRAHAM  
ROD BRIAG  
SHIRLEY TRUSTON  
MARK SCHNIEDER  
CHUCK GIBILISCO  
JOHN CRUM

**PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS**

Change the appeals regulations, so when a decision is made to help the forest people, it cannot be stopped with indefinite appeals.

Drop all PACFISH language and do site-specific recommendations, not blanket statements.

When managing ecosystems, you must manage the whole thing, no taking out scenic corridors, PACFISH regs., roadless areas, etc.

Preserve areas of biological diversity and integrity for monitoring, comparison, and adaptive management. An ecosystem is more than the sum of its parts. Keep all the parts recognizing scale. No goals for commodity product, let the land determine.

Need to look at overall management practices that need some parts that must be managed differently.

No need for this EIS.

Draft needs to thoroughly address customs, culture, and economic stability of the local communities.

The impact to private property needs thoroughly addressed.

All proposed management actions must be coordinated with local county governments.

How does timber harvest effect or contribute to forest health?

The forests are in bad shape - inland forests need disturbance to maintain their health and resilience. Active management is necessary to provide healthy forests.

Plan should differentiate between public expectations from national forests versus other set aside Federal lands, i.e. National Parks, etc.

Forest health should be the top priority in management.

Need a balance between economics, social issues and biologic needs.

How does this fit with existing forest plans and other site specific plans? Will the UCRB planning process or the results from this process be incorporated into existing plans or will it be a separate process? How does this (UCRB) fit with PACFISH?

The process does not seem to include local custom and culture and needs.

Are the Indian tribes a sovereign nation within our borders? If not, why all the nets in the Columbia and Snake Rivers that catch the salmon.. Also, re: Hood River and Walla Walla.

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I'm concerned that the public lands are being locked up, and people being denied traditional use of these lands for livelihood, recreation, and resource based industries; since these lands are necessary for National economic health.

Concerned about the effects on the small rural communities. And effects on the larger communities in the long run.

Ecosystems do not stop at land lines — need to include all Federal land in the analysis area including both suited and non-suited lands. Actively manage it all for forest health.

Explain carbon cycling. How does this part of the puzzle fit into the biodiversity puzzle on a specific basis.

If the BLM & FS implement this EIS, is there commitment to fund it and do the work on the ground?

Ecosystems are dynamic and can't be preserved in a static state, therefore passive management won't work, active management is the solution to restoring and maintaining forest health.

Humans are part of the ecosystem and always have been and at a minimum they should be given equal representation.

Forest health - the need is now. Don't wait for too much science. Do it!

Address management - use aggressive strategy to correct problems.

Must consider more recent social (human) influences - cultural western traditions.

"Scope" of effort may be unrealistic - has cost/benefit analysis been considered. How will it be funded? Both study itself and implementation.

Perhaps it's too detailed - need more reference to system functions - K.I.S.S initially.

Need ignores role of logging and road building - habitat fragment.

Quantifiable resource outputs and need to be quantified.

Equal opportunity for inputs and outputs to be finished product.

Consideration of and coordination to local government plans.

What is driving this EIS? Is it Endangered Species Act? Clean water? This effort must recognize human and economic factors are equally considered.

Role of cryptogramtic crust is overstated?

Balance must be maintained between products and wildland ecological process, including, specifically, wilderness and roadless.

What about other consumptive uses - i.e. mining, irrigation, municipal water supplies.

Address User's Fee to use the land — not fund with taxes.



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Emphasize (+) role of fire in general - video overemphasized (-) role.

Use recent technology within timber industry as basis for analysis — not old technology (i.e., clear-cuts).

Contributions of overgrazing understated in Purpose and Need.

Assumptions for how Forest Service and B.L.M. are addressing purpose and need are not clear!

Are you looking for opportunities to manage or looking for problems to correct?

Human dimension (i.e., recreation) understated in existing condition.

Direction of Purpose and Need?

Did not find economic argument.

Ecosystem management boundaries appear to be based on political concerns, not ecosystem consideration.

Army Corp of Engineers, and Bureau of Reclamation not a participant in this initiative (dams aren't being addressed and they are largest contributor to fish decline.

Monitoring effectiveness on emp. not emphasized enough in proposed action.

Why a draft P.A.? Why didn't you come to us when you had a more definitive P.A.

There was real value in scoping Purpose and Need!

Make sure you are incorporating all other operations need in Proposed Action as it pertains to ecosystems in Idaho.

Most of the purpose and need based on forest health, it unrealistically states that forest health can solve anadromous fish issues ... contribution of dams under-address in P.&N statement.

Climate discounted to much in P&N statement ... existing condition of forest and riparian areas may be understated.

Did a good job of identifying... purpose and need.

Economic Consequences & Social impacts of those directly and indirectly affected.

Look at other alternatives, too large scale EIS, smaller scale, pilot projects, etc.

Need more historical information for reference for where you are going.

Consider if State Govt. or private agencies would be better managers of the land.

More and earlier participation by agencies, interested parties, individuals, etc.

Important to consider the whole ecosystem.

Communication of the outcome of this project—How will this be used.

PURPOSE AND NEED

Is there data to support the need. Are fires natural. What evidence is there of increased frequency.

Doesn't like term "Forest & rangeland & riparian health". Health seems to be tied to economics. Use ecosystem integrity.

Active management can improve health of forest.

Without management, problems will get worse.

Questioning if things are really unhealthy — current situation may just be part of long-term natural cycle.

Long-term natural cycle may be longer than we think. What is natural?

Need more science, more investigation into ecosystem functions.

Use "pure" science, keep subjective values/ hidden agendas out of science.

Let science support project. Not politics.

Process needs social/economics as well as science.

Let science drive the project.

Need to include social sciences. (economics)

Need to include in "Purpose and Need" that technology advances have affected social/economics conditions.

Focus of "Purpose and Need" needs to be focused on habitat vs. Populations.

One size doesn't fit all. Need site specific prescriptions.

Need to include State/County/Local governments' regulations/responsibilities into process.

How soon will the UCRB EIS direct local forest management?

Get back to multiple use management. Long term management emphasis.

Look at harvesting in ecosystem management.

Look at in diversity of vegetation on range.

Include human resource - multiple use issues.

Legal system — change appeals process to prevent gridlock in planning/implementation.

Manage forest to bring back to healthy state—can't just return fire as a management tool, can't let Mother Nature take over.

Need to maintain healthy economics in rural counties.



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Need to maintain access on public lands. Pitting Population against each other - need multiple use.

Maintain wildlife habitat — agree with wildlife habitat goals in plan.

Need stable supply of natural resources like timber. Need stability returned to the ecosystem.

Need to change endangered species act.

Need to manage ecosystem - cant exempt one resource over another - encompass entire thing.

Didn't understand what it said about PACFISH stuff in there at all - need to look at everything in area.

Look at grazing and timber harvesting as tools.

Quit pointing the blame at people such as the users. Users are not "greedy, land abusers".

Recognize what can/can't be changed - cheat grass ranges, look at "ecological" function, not "composition".

Need freedom to implement decisions - legal system.

Emphasize long-term - need to be flexible/adaptable on the short-term also.

How will strategies become site-specific Need to be broad enough, yet site-specific.

Look at adjacent lands - define ecosystems including adjacent private lands - how will you deal with it?

Where are the water agencies in the planning process?

How will strategies be implemented within all the existing agency structures?

What is structure that will be put in place in involve public in planning and implementation.

Forest Health - # 1 priority should be thinning forest cleanup up forest floors - chipping would address erosion problems.

A healthy forest can sustain multiple use.

Don't point fingers.

German forests provide good example of healthy forests. Mismanagement, not European settlement is the problem.

Change management positions without looking at entire picture.

All land is not equal - multiple use doesn't fit in all segments of land.

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All Americans nationwide should be involved in this process - not just those living adjacent.

Need to consider sustainable yield - think of our grandkids.

Salvage logging can be useful tool - so can helicopter logging - but don't wholesale mark out areas. We need to carefully look at where we do the logging. Forest Service needs to do more management.

Need to determine and reexamine land use practices.

Need to retrofit dams to be more fish-friendly.

Need to strengthen Endangered Species Act, not weaken it.

Preserve unroaded areas of biological diversity and biological integrity  
roadless areas - wilderness areas - Undesignated wilderness areas

Political and judicial reality.

Ecosystem is more than the sum of its parts.

Cannot focus a solution on a single part.

As we focus on management practices we need to look at the overall picture.

Cannot commit large landscaped focused management solutions

"Keep all the parts"

Cannot take out the human element.

This effort must produce positive action.

Philosophical statement-manage property and land or not - manage "land" - man will be conservation vs. Preservation.

Emphasis on "long-term" (at least 120 years, a timber rotation) goals. Need long term stability in timber, recreation (dams are long term). Example: Streams- one extreme to the other has been history.

Entire Columbia River needs to be included in planning all the way to the mouth- Study should be broader - follow Columbia River all the way down.

Make sure management is equitable across entire landscape - don't micro-manage one area and ignore another.

Get out of "no action" gridlock. Can get amenities for all acres.

Local customs and cultures not recognized.

Emphasize the human element.

General health sustainable/ healthy forest.

Recognize tax base - county level.



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Everyone must be included in the management element (local, counties, states).

There are perceived and real values for tangible and intangible assets (weighing of importance is a problem).

Consequences of projections on environment (Ex: increasing tourism on other resources).

Clarification of the term sustainable.

Consideration of political boundaries, esp. State and local governments opinions, concerns and inputs into the planning process - needs more profile.

Customs, local traditions of western rural communities needs to be factored into the planning process.

Where's the funding going to come from for increased levels of under burning, stream restoration? How will the agencies achieve immense, broad based activities /goals under present funding levels/scenarios - and narrow "windows of opportunity" EX: burning.

How will the agencies UCRB decisions coordinate or dictate changes in land use planning on the local level, esp. county and private landowners? Concerns reference the value of centralized (regional) planning vs. decentralized, local planning efforts.

Need for better articulation of overall goals, e.g. ecosystem integrity (integrates social, ecological and economic components)

Prescribed fire - increased emphasis needed on fuel reduction by mechanical methods - to assure prescribed burning objectives meet with some level of predictability.

Be careful to avoid some of the problems of other large-scale planning efforts, e.g.

-Clarity of assumptions

-Plan has a clearly identifiable framework that is both integrated and cohesive

How available is the technical data and info used by the UCRB project to the public? Especially past monitoring information, historical data reference, the current management situation.

What information is used to form the basis of the UCRB's assumptions and where did the scientific information come from.

Alternatives to PACFISH EA need to be considered; particularly management scenarios that restore/enhance functions and processes, reduce risk of catastrophic events and provide local managers tool to address site specific conditions.



## PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

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Proposed action does not adequately reflect affects to the resource of human dimension (recreation) and social economics. It does not incorporate monitoring (effectiveness and implementation) for proposed management activities.

We need to understand that ecosystems are in constant change, so preservation is not an option. We need adaptive management on an appropriate schedule.

Ecosystems are complicated and we do not understand all we could, but this is an urgent situation, both biologically and economically. It is in the public's interest to get started. The basic building blocks of ecosystems is the soil and plant communities. First, we should begin to use the best science and management thinking to begin good basic ?????? for the basic resource, and hopefully, we will create the most biodiversity and ecosystem niches possible with todays technology and finish off by making special allowance for known sensitive species.

Shrub and grasslands: without results of science team, objectives outlines may not be attainable!

Can't eradicate cheat grass by burning

Fisheries: Anadromous; dams objectives outlined in P.A. not realistic politically.

D.F.C. may not be historical conditions -

Improve outline format of P.A. - It's not clear

We are writing a check we can't cash realistically (implement) with P.A. (Proposed Action).

Forest service created existing condition of resources, the agency won't share power to implement proposed action.

We buy the Purpose and Need and Proposed Action premise - It's unrealistic to think environmental will let us implement.

We haven't had time to review and make substantive comments.

The FS/BLM should be looking at uneven aged timber management (thinning v. Clear cutting).

Maintain species/age diversity management should replicate nature but speeded up. Same for shrub/grasslands.

Maintain compatibility between livestock/wildlife.

Determine long-term goals for riparian areas (long term structure).

Nothing should be done under plan that will harm neighbors (state, private landowners, industry).

Ecosystems change constantly - overstocking of forests major problem - wrong species, too many trees. Artificial, man-made forests. Need to manage - thinning, harvesting, grazing to replace fire to restore stocking levels.

Multiple use means prioritizing uses on each acre of land.

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Can't back out of 80 years of timber management in a few years - will require long-term solution.

Need site-specific management geared to healthy ecosystem.

Need to include USFWS/IDFG in the planning process - need to sign on to overall plan.

Agrees with timber section as long as it means management but imitate nature as much as possible.

Management requires road access to public land.

Don't agree with corridor philosophy in wildlife section - designed to put areas into single use - doesn't belong in document.

Doesn't agree with 25% reduction in grazing - must be site-specific based on best science available.

Need to look at mosaic landscape pattern. In some case, changed conditions may be desirable to maintain.

Distribution/timing of grazing more important than livestock numbers to a point.

Vegetative/ecological function, not composition, should be main goal.

Riparian areas among easiest to fix. Key to provide users with incentives to manage them - allow them to make a profit.

Use management processes that mimic natural or historic range of landscape patterns and natural processes.

Emphasize use of native species.

Emphasize well thought-out interagency coordination for implementation.

Give more concern for wild fauna of earth - shouldn't all be centered on resource extraction.

How quickly (time frames) to reach standards described. Describe: What happens when goals realized. Will stagnation occur - is system still dynamic.

Why consider reducing productivity of the land (products)? Give equal weight to maintaining or increasing existing productivity with science-based management strategies.

How do you marry logging and fire for = forest health?

Entire draft ambiguous — are these blanket proposals or simple guidelines modified on a site-specific basis?

Who's going to make the site-specific decisions?

Maintain reference sites/areas across the ecosystem that exemplify the veg. Community's in a wildland state.



Maintain some species' diversity in the dry forest types.

Consider actions to aggressively remove dead-dying-diseased trees.

Quantify measurable human uses - i.e., miles of trails, number recreational campsites, acres open to .... (recreation Uses).

How is fire suppression issue addressed as a component of sagebrush/grassland type?

Wood removal from riparian areas should be reconsidered - additive to fire hazard?

What needs to be changed to implement? How do we pay? Tax dollars? Timber dollars? (Is the taxpayer willing to pay?)

Actions described make some sense — depending how the actions (obj/S&G's) are implemented.

How will future technological advances be incorporated/evaluated? Cause/effects of advancing technology. Will there be a build-in updating mode.

Habitat diversity does not equal patches; ensure habitat for all species (the little guys).

Diversity is not static; changes in time and place.

Habitat diversity is used as a justification to harvest.

Prevent habitat fragmentation.

Open park like stands; How are we going to create this and what will it look like if we start with small diameter trees?

Proposed Action assumes we know how to manage; best science? Keep politics from dominating.

Need to proceed with what we know now or problems will continue. Will learn as new knowledge is used.

Will mandates of two agencies encompass the EIS?

Make sure EIS fits mandates of two agencies; agencies can legally implement the EIS.

Need to clarify laws and mandates before the EIS is completed.

Page 14— 2.2 million AUMS; evaluate sites for suitability of grazing; no numbers in document- limits what EIS can/cannot do.

Page 13— Standards of sagebrush/grass system appears to be dictated by economics and special interest groups. Question where the numbers comes from?

Doesn't see aesthetic basis for standards.

Specifics needed to give range.

Need quantifiable information to make decisions.



Needed Proposed Action sooner!! Nobody had time to read information!

Better and continued notification of public.

Place economic and social needs on equal footing with biological integrity.

Human needs are more important than plant and animal needs.

Human needs are not more important.

Human needs are equal.

Focused too much on fire. Needs to focus on Timber, grazing, mining etc. Need to address it "proposed action" to other consequences.

Solutions (fire) focused on mechanical methods not on the natural process.

Look at fire on an expandable time frame in order to consider and review the natural process. Solution cannot be short term.

Keep all the management tools available.

Roadless areas should be set aside with connecting corridors. Be recognized as biological reserves!

As we look at broad scale we need to look at the local scale. Decisions should be made at the local level. Local Managers will be able to make better decisions by looking at the broad scale

Rewrite wetlands legislation.

Repeal endangered species act.

Don't rewrite wetlands legislation.

Don't repeal endangered species act.

3 types of Forests is inadequate for determining prescriptions. (3 sizes does not fit all)

Continuous thread of reduced grazing and harvesting and other uses before analysis!

Predetermined objectives before the study is completed.

Consider increasing production from lands.

Must consider uplands when examining aquatic and riparian habitat (mass failure, intermittent channels).

Agencies must all be involved: Federal/State Lands/ Fish & Game.

Must work with and involve local government and private groups.

Uniform science—same methods, consistent.

Need names, addresses, titles and biographies of the Science Integration Team.

Need all but biographies for all the other major players.

Need to reduce stand density for forest health. It should be done in a manner which creates jobs for local communities (selective timber harvest, thinnings, and prescribed fire).

In draft PA, pg. 11 (objective #1), insert "commodity extraction" after "future options" in the first sentence.

In draft PA, pg. 11 (objective #2), rather than 25 percent, it should be no loss from current levels, possibly should be increased if Forest health is practiced.

The focus should be on Forest health, restoration, and maintenance of habitats, not on the restoration of populations.

All alternatives should show impacts to local communities.

Need a Forest health risk assessment in every alternative.

Need to consider riparian corridor approaches besides PACFISH. PACFISH does not meet ecosystem management principles.

National Forests were set up to be managed for the needs of people. The plan should provide sustainable and predictable supplies of what people need.

The plan should be pro-active with respect to solving Forest health issues. We need to proceed with the best science we currently have available. "Perfect science should not delay action."

Ecosystem management should include roadless areas in maintaining Forest health.

### UCRBits...

*Montana, with an area of 147,046 sq mi, is the fourth largest state in the U.S.; 29.4% of the land area is owned by the federal government. The state is roughly rectangular in shape, and its extreme dimensions are about 320 miles from north to south and about 550 miles from east to west. Elevations range from a low of 1800 ft along the Kootenai River at the northwestern border of the state to a high of 12,799 ft atop Granite Peak in the south near Yellowstone National Park. The approximate mean elevation is 3400 ft.*



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## OTHER ISSUES

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What is spiritual need. Can you define spiritual needs.

We overuse the word Biological integrity when we should use Ecological Integrity (physical, biological, social and economic).

Who makes the final decision on what alt is chosen —it seems that the final decision comes down to a value/policy and is it appropriate that agencies would make that decision.

This planning effort seems redundant when forest plans BLM plans exist already.

Ecosystem plan must be integrated with states, counties, etc., and must involve their planning efforts. Coordinated planning - not Federal government tell, but cooperating with.

How will ecosystem management agencies be organized within this area, to work with public and county and state - what will the working policy be.

Who is reviewing scientific work.

Planning process must be based upon science - if more time is needed for that it should be taken.

The work papers, peer review, analysis process should be made available to public and source of funding of reviewers and this should be made available to the public.

Want to see a discuss/analysis of indirect effects of sedimentation reduction to management responsibilities of other entities (reservoirs, as example) such as BOR, states, etc.

Need to explain better regarding the relationship between the scientific analysis and the two EIS to be developed. Will they have the same goals, objectives, etc. Maybe one EIS for entire area may better meet needs.

Need to develop EIS's around true ecosystems and not political boundaries.

Want social and economic goals to be integral parts of Alts. Need to make social and economic goals a up-front entity, not an afterthought of what is being impacted.

Are there any social-economic studies currently under way? What are they and what do they say.

Need to implement ecosystem management now and not study this to death while the ecosystem goes downhill? What are the interim management.

Why do top down planning? Why not amend existing forest/BLM plans by local managers.

After reading proposed action, it appears that the forests are in bad shape and uses will have to be cut back. How will this be mitigated.

Analysis scale needs to look at economic social impacts at the local community level.

Who is going to fund implementation of alternatives and cost.

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OTHER ISSUES

Want to see what the commodity outputs will be by alternative.

Concern that if this goes to court, management will be by litigation.

How will conflict between goals, objectives and standards for different resources be resolved in the preferred alternative.

Want to see a preferred alternative in DEIS.

Do not want to see a preferred alternative in DEIS.

Once the agencies have invested time money and effort into a preferred alternative the agencies is loss receptive to changes or other alternative.

Want the chance to vote on all comments/issues.

Want "No Action" to be existing forest and range plans without interim guidance.

Full disclosure of analysis, modeling assumptions.

Need to evaluate unconstrained alternative.

Need to consider reasonable alternatives.

HRV may not meet all public desires for things like wildlife, sustained MBT.

Video conference—need to look at new way of communicating.

BLM side of things seems to be secondary.

BLM doesn't seem to be involved.

Needs better information dissemination in timely manner. (documents and publicity)

Too many people in one room for conference.

Better information out on how to view.

Information on how broader public can get involved.

Prefer "traditional" public hearing — can hear what others have to say. Town hall meeting.

Natural ecosystem maintained first - then human use integrated.

All five elements given equal weight.

Ecosystems are dynamic over time (change - don't stay the same).

Emphasis native and resident wildlife/fish/plants habitat (should not be emphasis on nonnative).

Potential loss of recreation opportunities due to wildfire, short/long term.

OTHER ISSUES

Consistency with in ecosystems across management boundaries (ex: FS/R.D./BLM boundaries).

Clarify recognize private land's role in ecosystem management.

Economic and social stability including responsible, shared use.

Ecosystem management in include wilderness, roadless, state endowment lands.

Flexibility in standards and guidelines and management strategy.

Recognize water rights and existing future use of water, grazing, mining (minerals).

UCRB being segmented by State boundaries, CRB needs to be considered as a whole river basin. Potential NEPA violation.

Use of hierarchal scale of analysis (time & Space) is a potent comparable tool, however IDT needs to carefully diagnose what is feasible , possible and realistic to achieve (biologically, culturally, economically, politically, etc.)

Be careful of use of term "restore", may set up unrealistic expectations. Language of current Proposed action is rife with this term ( restore habitat)

Goals - IDT needs to focus on integration of ecosystems components, vie equal with to social, ecological and economic goals aspects (Page 1, item 2)

IDT needs to be aware that specific components of the ecosystem may be diametrically opposed, ie restoration of certain rangeland conditions may not maintain certain wildlife populations. Trade-offs are involved. Who makes the decisions?

Page 14, objectives reference reducing current livestock grazing no more than 25%. Foregone conclusion may not be appropriate. Suggest it reads "determine appropriate levels of livestock grazing. Inconsistent comment to reduce grazing.

In favor of selective logging because:

- looks better
- better health and growth
- successful in protecting streams
- areas look healthier
- aesthetically pleasing
- meets multiple use

Implementation process - needing a description in EIS how /who it will work across administrative boundaries.

How will various agencies implement their varying policies.

Where's the funding coming form for this current effort? What are its dollar effects on the local offices of the Federal agencies involved.

How are funding needs going to be coordinated, especially in reference to implementation?

Be careful in defining specific desired future conditions. Ecosystems are going to change over time, regardless of management best intentions. Systems are dynamic.



Suggestion: look at ranges of Desired future conditions within desired limits.

Management agencies need to build in "feedback" loops - monitoring to evaluate decisions made by UCRB project.

IDT needs to "bite the bullet" if extraction/commodity uses need to be limited, restricted, or done away with - make the hard decisions.

Trade-offs/consequences - equally weigh.

Be cautious in application of intervention strategies. This effort must translate into positive action.

Would the general public and other players have other opportunities throughout the implementation phases (times) to have input, for a change.

Will management, then, form long-term management goals within an adaptive management structure to take advantage of new science and changing public needs, etc.?

Overall coordination between agencies would be great (even better if FS and BLM were merged).

The typical EIS document is not worth the paper it is printed on. The key to making it worthwhile is, once a strategy is developed, the managers AND users have the freedom to do the job without blame, without adverse economic impact, and without changing the system every few years.

If it is a national problem, costs should be born by the public, not individuals.

Change Endangered Species Act. No one species, managed for man, is top consideration. Species only a part of the system.

Grazing and timber harvest are tools for management. Function no just composition, better grasses, better trees.

Development that allows implementation of plans.

Wilderness lands included in management plan.

Include the whole river system, Oregon/Washington, east and west of Cascade.

Overall cooperation of all agencies. Will there be a new level of bureaucracy?

Forest management - Harvest more to keep forest healthy, more so than today. Predictable timber supplies for rural communities.

Range management - Increase diversity of plants and shrubs, less fire problems, better for all wildlife. Multiple use.

Recreation - Man a part, to use, not just preserve the area. Use not conservation, not preservation.

Gridlock - change legal system, environmental vs. industry. Multiple use. Let land managers manage the land, not the legal system manage the lands.



Ecosystems should be recognized to be dynamic over time. The brief picture of time we are using to judge ecosystem "health" is inadequate.

Incorporate an independent scientific peer review of all proposed management actions.

Proposed action should not incorporate "ceilings" for commodity production, i.e. no more than 25 percent reduction in timber and range.

### UCRBits...

*The recorded temperature in Utah ranges from -69° F in 1985 to 117° F also in 1985. The average length of the growing season is only 90 to 180 days in most of the state, and freezing temperatures may occur during ten months of the year. Most of the state is dry; the overall average annual precipitation is only 12 inches. Annual precipitation ranges from a low of 5 inches in the Great Salt Lake Desert to more than 40 inches in the Wasatch Mountains. Winter precipitation is mostly in the form of cyclonic storms that originate over the Pacific Ocean; they bring large amounts of rain and snow to the southern and western slopes of the mountains but leave the leeward slopes and valleys relatively dry.*

**BUTTE****PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS****PARTICIPANTS**

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Why were Salmon and Challis Idaho dropped from the Video conference?

Can range of natural variation be defined?

Has a total inventory been accomplished?  
Geology, range, forest, etc  
History of development  
Risk assessment  
Priorities?

How do we measure success?

What is impact of management on State and Private?

Need to discuss social impacts of using fire.

How does this mesh with other laws?

How will accumulative affects be monitored at the basin level after implementation?

Standards should be a part of the discussion. Need to be understandable.

Consideration in EIS regarding resources that come off lands, serve a need for people over the U.S., Stabilize economy, goods & services.

Mechanics of getting from A to B is concern. From Recreation EIS plans- How will we get to site specific level?

EIS should maintain multiple use vision of both agencies.

P&N should be realistic, making sure humans are a component, Not totally pre-European.

Needs to address local people.

Stability of local communities and their ability to sustain viability (economical goods services etc,)

P&N references range reform '94 which is a political not scientific document, which differs from BLM's on data which states that range is in best condition.

This is costing a lot!

Who has ultimate authority to implement Plan?

Will the scientific team redefine the purpose and need?

How will this plan be affected by management of lack thereof in surrounding areas.

Broad assumption about Forest health Crisis is not validated.



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|   | <b>PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS</b>   |
| <b>P<br/>R<br/>O<br/>P<br/>O<br/>S<br/>E<br/>D<br/><br/>A<br/>C<br/>T<br/>I<br/>O<br/>N</b> | <p>Would like EIS to address in an aggressive action the failing health of our forests. The disease and bug ridden stands that now mark the entire area must be treated and current treatment of stand regeneration through catastrophic fire loss is not acceptable for the majority of the local discussed.</p> <p>Reclamation jobs putting area back the way they were not long term jobs and cannot replace logging grazing etc.</p> <p>Question the assumptions of ecosystem health problems.</p> <p>How will economic analysis be handled?</p> <p>What is wrong with habitat diversity since we have high wildlife numbers?</p> <p>Are there really problems in the UCRB?</p> <p>Is this a primarily a plan to manage anadromous fish under the guise of EM?</p> <p>Why are only these fish talked about in the document to the exclusion of other wildlife?</p> <p>Question whether development is the source of the problem.</p> <p>If the real problem is anadromous fish then look at the major problem of migration (dams).</p> <p>Harvest of fish (international problem)</p> <p>Need to harvest overstocked timber stands if it is a problem.</p> <p>Pages 11 and 14 - not sure what objectives means in both instances</p> <p>Where do "current levels" come from? 1.1 Billion Bd FT, 2.2 Million AUMs.</p> |
|   | <b>OTHER ISSUES</b>   |
| <b>O<br/>T<br/>H<br/>E<br/>R<br/><br/>I<br/>S<br/>S<br/>U<br/>E<br/>S</b>                   | <p>The process must generate predictable outputs in order for people to feel secure today &amp; confident in tomorrow for sustainable forestry.</p> <p>How does this broad-based approach apply to local ecosystems?</p> <p>Will there be circumvention of local communities (i.e. emergency orders from this EM EIS process?</p> <p>EIS process is driven by out-of-state folks.</p> <p>Process is being driven to be done before 104th Congress is fully engaged!</p> <p>EPA should be involved in this project because of the superfund sites at the headwaters.</p> <p>How does Endangered Species Act fit? May focus management on a single species.</p>   |



Concern about amount of \$ being spent on this one day, video link up, etc., why is this being done when there is a budget cut? (Good question!)

EIS will likely take away local ability to produce which will be detrimental to local economies (infrastructure etc.) Must have viable local economy.

Does EM fall under NEPA, What laws will be used, What authority does the team have and what laws will be used to go around NFMA?

What authority does the team have to modify local forest plans?

What laws will be cited to circumvent NFMA that mandates Forest Planning

How do we manage for "pre-settlement" conditions?

This processes should not be static.

Does the process work to empower the local holders with more than lip service to input?

Will the EIS be able to be abused & destroy all management.

Like EIS to Address Forest Plans?

The process must generate predictable out puts in order for people to feel secure today & confident in tomorrow for sustainable forests.

How will this affect Forest Plans?

How will this "plan" be used incorporated into existing "plans" or whatever?

When can we expect a decision?

### UCRBits...

*Salmon River* headwaters rise in the Sawtooth and Salmon River mountains. It flows north and then west for a total length of 420 miles to join the Snake River in western Idaho. On the lower course of the river is the Salmon River Canyon, a gorge about 5000 ft deep and 30 mi long. Because its strong current and rapids make upstream travel nearly impossible, the North Fork is known as the River of No Return; the Middle Fork was made part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System in 1968.

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DAVE BERGEY

The video and introductory presentation overemphasized resources and recreation aspects of the forests and did not consider the needs of people nor did it emphasize the multiple-uses of the forest.

It seems inappropriate to go ahead with the EIS before the scientific assessment team has completed their work.

There is not enough on the ground work being done and too much planning and studies.

With all the changes that have occurred in the world in recent history, it is unrealistic to try and turn back the clock to the way things were before white settlement.

Why did President Clinton pick on the Northwest?

We need to stop wasting time and money on studies. The endangered species act is driving this effort whereby too much emphasis is placed on species and not enough on people.

Is this project legal? Where did the funding approval come from? Was there an executive order from the President to authorize this?

There are too many different projects going on at the same time. People don't have the time to make good comments on so many different projects. This will lead to the local Forest planning efforts being neglected.

It is not possible to mimic the processes from pre-European settlement because we don't have enough data on how ecosystems worked back then.

Who will pay the costs of restoring ecosystems?

Is the Forest Service going to sue us if the decisions in the EIS are not followed....ie another injunction?

We cannot trust the government because Jack Ward Thomas and Bruce Babbitt are such environmentalists.

We need more management in wilderness areas.

The video was a P.R. scam and an effort to brainwash people.

County governments cannot be included in the process because of FACA.

Why is it better to burn the forests instead of harvesting? Why not harvest timber instead of letting it burn.

This country has been managed very well by grassroots people. Too many people is the problem. People are the hardest use of the land.





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JOE PECK  
KATE TAYLOR

The people in Idaho are getting blamed for the salmon problem and that is not right. The dams are the real problem.

We are concerned about protecting the resources. Is this entire project a smoke screen so the feds can get more control? We want a guarantee that we will be involved and our comments are part of the decision making process.

We don't have the money or the votes like the environmental groups do so our input will not be used.

Is there a no action alternative?

Will this project refine PACFISH? When will PACFISH be finalized?

What authority do you have to influence federal laws?

How can this project help eliminate the problem of projects like timber sales being stopped by anyone from anywhere?

The reason the forests are in such bad shape is because projects like timber sales are being stopped by environmentalists.

Federal agencies interpret the environmental laws poorly and make too many regulations.

The EIS project does not address the primary economic concerns of rural areas. The project should be designed to sustain the economic concerns we have now.

The proposed action does not address what rural communities are concerned with. How will the rural/local concerns be included?

Why are there no scientists from outside the government on the science assessment team?

How will you address mining? It is not renewable resources so how can you determine a "predictable and sustainable" supply?

Float trips cause just as much damage to the salmon.

How can anyone manage a constantly changing ecosystem? We are worried about high level ecosystem management legislation. How do you determine what is natural and what is caused by humans?

You don't really know what the historic range of variability is.

The environmental groups will get most of the input because they have all the time and the money.

We need a collaborative effort to determine what we need and then turn the management over to the locals.

There seems to be a conflict between ecosystem management and ESA. ESA is too concerned about single species.



Fear that private property rights will be put at risk...government taking of private land. Who will pay property owners?

"I am 70 years old and I don't give a dam about myself, but I have grandkids and as soon as they miss a meal, I'm coming after you."

### UCRBits...

*Wyoming, with an area of 97,818 sq mi, is the tenth largest state in the U.S.; 46.5% of the land area is owned by the federal government. The state is nearly rectangular in shape, and its extreme dimensions are about 275 mi from north to south and about 365 mi from east to west. Elevations range from 3100 ft along the Belle Fourche River in the northeastern corner of the state to 13,804 ft atop Gannett Peak in the Wind River Range. The approximate mean elevation is 6700 ft.*

*Wyoming gets its name from the Wyoming Valley of northeastern Pennsylvania, is an Anglicized form of a Delaware term meaning "place of the big plain." Wyoming is called the Equality State and the Cowboy State.*

PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

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Take a look at systems within UCRB system, eg. Difference between Northern Idaho and Southern Idaho.

Integrate science & base decisions on science and not so much politics.

Look at entire ecosystem on social, economic & biolliological. Change wording from biological integrity. " . To ecosystem integrity."

Purpose & need needs to address custom & cultural needs & economic stability. It's not in "Purp. & Needs" document.

Historical & climatic changes need to go back historically far enough, look back further.

Manage for long term (geologic time) changes - document doesn't consider past & present condition & causes. Man has introduced many of the factors present today.

Past decisions have caused damage to environment. ie catastrophic fires 1994 due to locking up forest lands.

Use more science to make decisions on management.

Re think old science & look at new science for best approach to management decisions & question new science.

Give all local residents more input in the process & carry more weight in decisions.

Local residents sometimes consider economics over biol. Considerations. Make sure each is given proper consideration.

Consider natural national climatic changes to environment as well as others.

There is a serious disconnect that appears to eliminate the interdependence between rural national resource based production & intellectual/urban jobs.

Look at big picture, as well as local & consider entire ecosystem.

Habitat destruction & exotics etc need to be looked at over climatic changes.

In regards to riparian areas (PACFISH) ex) pulling logs from streams by regulations in WA state - this is now considered bad. All this was driven by bad science by scientists. It gotten us to where we are now. ex) in the proposed actions all weed left.

Buffers all need to be managed.

Nature did fine for 1000's of years - management may not be answer.

A lot of science has not looked at climatic changes. We will have to





manage our resources within nature's constraints.

Recognize adaptability of nature.

We are way beyond (population) to let nature manage - cannot let take care of self, man need to actively manage.

Pg 6 - health needs summary

Permanent set aside is mistake -

Patches & corridor set aside are not reasonable in a dynamic environment.

Patches & corridors should change as environment changes.

Human needs

If we don't come up with our own sustainable timber output we will be demanding from areas that are less environmentally sensitive. **This has** global implications.

No discussion of private property rights. Must consider the Inholder rights & investment based expectations are consider with private property rights.

-ex) Water, roads

- Feeling that inholders are being attacked

Economic stability of the west is maintained by preservation of wildlands and wilderness areas.

In regards to "let nature do it"

1910 was a "nature do it." We cannot always let nature manage.

Fire damage can be devastating.

Look at that most of '94 fires were on Federal Lands that were not managed.

Public access and human needs are being denied due to the concerns.

Agencies have not addressed Past Action - over use of resources; ie: over cutting, grazing, mining.

Should address Soc/Eco aspects as primary concern - followed by Ecosystem Management.

Clarify the ultimate use of the "Document" - How is this going to be used?

Danger in being vague in the intent of the document.

There are areas that should be left alone.

Is the NEPA process too fixed or ridged for this assessment - the ecosystem is dynamic and as such needs to be flexible.

Also, as "state-of-the-art" science changes the "document" may need to change.

Constant public involvement

Concern for unhealthy watersheds



Assumption that the whole ecosystem is unhealthy is not true.

Recognize and acknowledge the size of this multi-state, agency undertaking.  
What science will be used? There is disagreement among the experts on what the Best action is.

Need to look at some of the LAWS that are part of the process - Laws could be the problem.

Less emphasis on market driven need.

Balance needs of all users.

BLM or USFS lands are not the only part of the Ecosystem. How will private lands fit into the equation?

Inadequate timing and distribution of materials/unprepared

Broad plans need to be tailored to local conditions & be flexible.

Address overgrazing more thoroughly.

Ensuring Scientific decisions & process insulated from current & future & political priorities.

Encourage participation from Private. & State landowners.

Education all owner & users within or UCRB about Natural Resource owners.

Address sustainable yield harvest & must be enduring.

Address proactive decision making to forest health.

P&N may have too much emphasis on forest health issues.

Increased emphasis on social & economic issues relating to community stability.

Address economic/paper-timber needs also mining at a national & global scale.

Address economics as a long term consideration - not short term.

Forest Health - Basis for soil nutrient decrease need, more documentation

Current FS management plans are stymied by controversy & bureaucratic grid lock.

Need to avoid do nothing approach.

Should mention other international treaties and fed statutes that limit management actions.

- Treaty seceded
- MBTA
- States rights
- Mining - Statutory rights to mine

Direction re-establish (2 priorities) Accountability addressed in need section.

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| PURPOSE AND NEED | <p>Aquatic &amp; Riparian - Impact of exotic fish pops. Must be part of recovery plans for native species.</p> <p>Establish correct carbon value, and provide direction to getting there.</p> <p>Need a plan that will reduce the risk of unnatural &amp; catastrophic fire.</p> <p>Make sure statistically sound as well as scientifically sound.</p> <p>Concern with models validity (Habitat Stability) regarding species extrapolated concerns with local models for regional application.</p> <p>Develop innovative methods to access &amp; predict impacts of various management options.</p> <p>Page 6 - restoration of diverse habitats in forest ecosystems need to be achieved by active management rather than establishment of core reserves.</p> <p>Need to allow local professionals to make decision (expedite process)</p> <p>Purpose - Assure future management plans meet legal mandates and to legally eliminate sufficient court mandated shot downs.</p> <p>Human Need - need to have a supply of minerals off of fed. lands to meet human needs. <u>Supply now at risk.</u></p> <p>Human needs in forestry - supply &amp; demand - address increased cost (who?)</p> <p>List recreation specifically of major human induced effects (Page 5 summary).</p> <p>In warm moist forest type need to have aggressive action plan for re-introduction of Blister rust resistant Whitepine.</p> |
|                  | PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS  |
| PROPOSED ACTION  | <p>Why was there an exclusion of Salmon and Challis, ID from teleconference today?</p> <p>Not able to comment when unable to get reasonable time to review (no way can comment on something did not read)</p> <p>Reinstate the direct sales program to salvage</p> <p>Salvage dead, dying timber on <u>all</u> USFS/BLM lands in Idaho.</p> <p>In planning for riparian areas - had introduction of red cedar/cottonwood for recruitment of woody debris.</p> <p>Meeting of requirement of T&amp;E has not been sufficient.<br/>example: 3000 species awaiting listing.</p> <p>Give man more consideration - (Summary Pg. 4)</p> <p>Does "restore and maintain" of all components mean hands off?</p>   |



Pg 11 objective -Define differences between national parks and national forests - this is an education problem.

Pg 10 & 13 objectives - forested/shrub areas, afraid if only manage for T&E, we will be excluding other important uses. It will take a tremendous effort to manage for caribou, grizzly bear & wolves.

2nd bullet of Summary pg. 6 & 6th bullet of Summary pg. 8} (These sections of the P.A. were taped here)

When talking about increasing tourism it seems the government to be locking up lands with closures.

Road closures are important to survival of some species.

Consider that some wildernesses do not have sufficient resources to meet some animals needs.

Interested in maintenance of Old Growth and ancient forests to the extend possible.

Define Old Growth and ancient forests - clearly.

Pg 16e: Guidelines about down wood in riparian does not make sense - wood should be removed if falled.

Downed wood in riparian areas is critical for westslope cutthroat & other species of fish.

Dead/decomposed trees to have value in ecosystem

Need to understand what the ecosystem entails. "Cannot divide the parts from the whole."

Need to have an explanation of what an Ecosystem is. The components of the ecosystem all have to work for the whole system to be healthy.

Omission of action of production, development, utilization of the resource - in the statement.

How are they going to get back to the desired condition - what actions will be required?

Economics need to be recognized and addressed in the statement (Economic Analysis needs to be complete - not only the "Timber - mining - grazing" - industry, but recognize non-commodity value of the resources in the ecosystem.)

Need to consider the Global aspects - not just the UCRB.

Reduce road densities

Access to wilderness areas improved.

More roadless logging.



Define all "Terms" used in the EIS.

Propose the Fed Agencies initiate M.O.U.'s & regular coordination with local Governments.

Proposed action may be too broad to implement practically.

Propose to include study and management of core, reserve, wilderness areas.

Should include process for prompt action to resource/enviro damage.

Should clear definitions of what constitutes riparian zones.

Distribute more authority to USFS District Rangers.

Should include re-assessment of existing & proposed wilderness areas.

Make sure human needs are fully met - give it = Right

Keep B.A. as a criteria for each forest type & the restoration time frame goals as is in proposed action.

Maintain positive B.A. growth direction

How will you restore highest risk streams in 4 categories. How can the cure not destroy what we have now (habitat)?

Page 9 Warm moist forest - would like upper age range listed as a forest management criteria.

How will you approach changing tree species mix in forest?

Page 10 Maintenance of patch sizes and migration corridors should not limit active management options.

Add - How to accommodate permanent engineered structures/improvements and relatively long term disturbances (i.e. mine sites, impoundments, comm. fac. utility corridors etc.)

Page 10 For all forested areas - standards listed appear to be focused on species by species management rather than an ecosystem based approach.

Objectives of increasing natural scenic conditions should be secondary to the objectives of restoring natural species composition & timber stand densities.

Establish education process so people understand what we are doing.

Include people & politicians in education.

#11 Agree with skill banks make them available exp. private landowners.

Need to include all lands.

## OTHER ISSUES

Reliance on T&E Act - ESA ignores human needs -  
- If we develop this proposal on T&E - congress will likely change.

There seems to be selection bias for "these" meetings - problems for attendance based on profit interests vs. general interest as opposed to random survey.

Big concern over not getting materials in time to make good comments.

Concern about reinvention of FS and exclusion of foresters concern for swing towards additions of -ologists"

FS should return to original purpose protect water & provide continued supply of timber, ie. congressional mandate rather than presidential directives.

Scientist function as consultants rather than administrators.

Need downsizing of the FS and make members of FS responsible for one geographic area & discipline. Too many moves into other geographic areas.

Reinstitute the direct sales program to salvage dead timber.

BLM/FS constrained by outside actions - political & bureaucratic for making good decision.

Local decisions can be influenced by local \$.

Guiding philosophy within which decisions are made - developed with strong public input.

Better info to public "unbiased" by industry or news media.

Is there a means around "Paralysis by Analysis", Will this EIS get around the problem?

Will this process lead to actions that will be implicated.

Up until final document - do not discount new ideas.

The whole process needs to be evolving.

The ecosystem is dynamic and as such the EIS needs constant review.

What is a sustainable resource?

Data base accessible to the public.

May not have knowledge as to how implement corrective action with scientific knowledge.

Anonymous process for collecting comments on UCRB EIS. NOT EFFECTIVE

Review appeals process & effect on project implementation.

Policies should not be implemented by law.



Lack of trust in USFS/BLM to implement policies as stated.

Should include process for prompt action to address/react to emergency situations (fires, bugs, etc.)

End defacto subsidies for recreationists (non-motorized)

Non Forest management activities should not be subsidized by allowance on F.S. timber sales (ie. rec & trails)

Allow implementation of stewardship contracts which use revenue from commodity function to achieve other restoration/mitigation objectives.

Don't localize distribution of revenues.

Allow for off site mitigation for unavoidable habitat impacts that would provide for habitat improvement or environmental education. Allow flexibility in contracts.

### UCRBits...

*Nevada, with an area of 110,567 sq miles, is the seventh largest state in the U.S.; 78.9% of the land area is owned by the federal government. The shape of the state resembles a rectangle with the lower left part sheared off diagonally; its extreme dimensions are about 485 mi from north to south and about 320 mi from east to west. Elevations range from 479 ft along the Colorado River in the southernmost part of the state to 13,146 ft atop Boundary Peak on the California boundary. The approximate mean elevation is 5500 ft.*



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### PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

When the five study factors were listed in the draft document, the human factor was listed last. It should be listed first.

The small, rural communities are an endangered part of the ecosystem. Even though these communities fall under the human factor heading, there is fear that the community members' concerns won't be weighed adequately. The rural people's voices may not be loud enough to be heard over the voices of the greater number of people who live in urban areas. They want a livelihood that enables the communities and their people to remain in the area. Will this EIS team hear and pay attention to this concern?

Population growth was the group's biggest concern. Population growth, and increased demands on natural resources have brought us to this ecological situation. How can we incorporate projected population growth into this plan and make it viable for the future? How can we meet the third objective of this plan, maintaining functioning ecosystems over time, in the face of population growth?

The salmon problem is not a factor of habitat management---such as grazing and logging. Before the dams, the salmon populations were fine. The dams prevented salmon from migrating. Several people agreed that they'd rather have power than salmon.

If wolves can't live here under existing conditions, why should we try to bring them back? If they could migrate here naturally and survive, they would belong here. Several people hated to see Federal dollars go toward tracking wolves as they migrate back to their home territory and monitoring the wolves' sex lives.

If they try to bring wolves back, would they try the same with a native grass species? One person wondered if they would transplant rare plants, and keep all other users away, ensuring the plants' survival.

Biodiversity is a great thing, but can it be done with people?

How can this plan be implemented? It looks good on paper, but doesn't seem practical. Things change. Populations change. There were concerns about such wide-ranging policies being set in concrete.

### UCRBits...

*In 1848, at the close of the Mexican War, the territory from which Nevada was formed was acquired by the United States in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.*



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## PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

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PROPOSED ACTION

How far do we go back for a desired condition? The deer population and wildlife populations in general are much better now than at the turn of the century. Going back more than 50 years would put us looking at declining conditions.

The numbers of people that could be supported off a given piece of land is much more now than in pre-settlement times, this needs to be considered in selecting a desired condition.

The proposal to increase recreation 1% over 20 years, and to reduce timber harvest and AUMs 25% seems out of proportion. What value judgements is this based on? Where is the emphasis?

We want healthy ecosystems, but objectives may be unreasonable given the changes that have occurred since settlement times. We need to set goals for something less than "wilderness conditions".

Reduction of timber harvest is in conflict with reducing carbon levels. How are these levels determined and how do we know what is the proper amount? The situation seems to be overstated.

AUM cuts don't take into account all the cuts that have been taken in the past. Some areas have taken more cuts than others. Shouldn't the reductions be based on objectives for each given area?

Un-management of forests creates shade tolerant trees and increases in undesirable species. Without harvest and fire animal and plant species will be affected.

Controlled burning is a very important part of this proposal.

Extractive processes; timber, mining, grazing etc.. are what economies are based on. Restrictions on these processes combined with a rising population and demand will create extensive conflicts.

The timber industry is on a decline and ranching is hard to accomplish. The proposal states that perhaps ranchers could diversify but obviously is not an option for everyone. The proposal also states that communities could be employed by ecosystem improvement projects and contracts. Immediate implementation of these types of strategies is crucial to maintaining rural communities and enabling residents to stay if they are to work.

Where do the dollars come from to accomplish ecosystem improvement projects and employ people from small communities?

Access and recreation in the National Forest and public lands is very important. If community life-styles and access to these areas is restricted or denied then local people will become discontent and communities will deteriorate. Our ties to the land and access to the land is very important to our mental and physical health and life-styles.



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**PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS**

Questions are biased; pre-arrived at conclusions, i.e., degradation. Pointing fingers instead of identifying conditions.

Pg 1 - change date to Jan. 1996 from Mar. 16, '95. Need more time for review due to magnitude.

Do we need an EIS? ROD takes local control out.

Assumes problems that may not exist.

Assumption that there will be values to society by returning lands to preservation mode. Private ownership would meet societies needs better.

Trend of rangelands on increase-why was that not in information/video? If rangeland conditions is on upswing what is purpose and need of EIS? Video paints dark picture--are problems, but are isolated.

No involvement from local communities, state and local government, city & county in development of proposal. Not having fair representation--no input--slanted to governments side--recognize sovereignty of tribes, but not of states. No representation from Farm Bureaus, Nat'l Cattlemen's, Off-roads and all terrain recreationists, hunting, chamber of commerce, mining. Data only from one side of argument.

Speaks only of dire states of natural resources, not successes of range/livestock management and mining decisions.

Pg. 9 (long version) 2nd paragraph. Don't see existence of chapter 3. Need that to make comments.

Pg. 3 Mechanism for accountability to avoid broken range management contracts--these are affecting our local economy.

**PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS**

Pg. 14 - middle of page-Reduce grazing by no more than 25%-Transfer of permits-reduce at that time. Major impact to ranchers. Assume reductions are necessary. Already have had reduction of 50% or more.

Firmly endorse management. Based on ecosystem management (science).(0)

Separation of politics from science.

Define science--look at holistic resource management--could be looking at only one definition of "best science". How do you review the science portion?

Who are the scientists? What is the mix. Is it all government? Need representation by industry.



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Why isn't one of the actions "No Action".

I take a 25% cut in cattle, is BLM going to gather 25% of wild horses?

Goal to restore pre-European condition is unrealistic.

What effects on salmon such as protection of coastal (predation) seals, dams had? And is this being considered in the process of assessing salmon habitat. Effects of Native American removal of salmon?

Cannot have biological integrity until salmon are back in historic habitats.

Need time to implement--need human friendly implementation schedule.

How will decision UCRB affect current Land Management. Plans. Will it supersede them?

Talks about wildlife specifically not livestock. No balance shows in input shows in this process.

Didn't see anything on effect on local economy. Needs to be there.

OTHER ISSUES

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Assurance we will get a response, specific to local geographic area, not a general generic statement Reason(s) why locals were ignored.

Waste of time--don't listen.

Done deal anyway.

Copy of video.

Preservationists favorably show, others not represented. Opening statement is unfair-scrap the system and start over.(16)

Film unfair, should not be shown again.

Pg. 2 of purpose and need coordination with governments-needs clarification.

Idaho forests in poor shape and need EIS but hope there aren't casualties along the way.

Procedure phoney to start with.

Policy passed on to private land owners in what way?

Intermingled lands with FS and BLM; will values be affected?

How is irrigation water going to be affected; adjudicated and vested water rights.

Build into process a method of cross-examining the science this is based on, without going to court.(Beyond industry on science team.

How does it dovetail with Range Reform?

No requests for data from Elko BLM for science portion. When/how will they use/get it?

System is flawed, does not recognize local needs. Does not have local input. Need to eliminate process or start process over to make sure initial product is balanced to needs of local community. People in local community need their own opening statement.

Need individual voice. This not a group project.

Local government needs time to go through their own process to respond. Need 3 months for county government to respond. State needs 60 days (Assembly and Senate Nat. Resource Committee would request an audience w/UCRB to come and appear before committee in Carson City).

Will there be weekly, monthly updates of what is going on. How will the word get out? How will we find it?

We are probably way behind in this process and would like time to catch up. Communication has been cruddy.

If government is going to spend 30 mil. to do this, half of the money 15 mil. should be given to local governments and groups to fund their time and efforts needed to come up with solutions.

Quigley model-how does model handle fires, predators, drought (natural occurrences).

What keeps UCRB ROD of being one step away from injunction which would stop all implementation in whole basin?

How will this affect adjudication. Will there be a re-adjudication needed?

How is instream flow taken care of? What will priority for water be?

Will this affect all states? Water laws vary between states? Is there a compact between the states? Implementation schedule for water rights.

Keep copies of local issues available here.

Don't edit comments, send as is.

Assurance we will get a response as to why our suggestions for changes were or were not accepted?

Of what value does this process with regards to public comments? Since it has not in the past? Exercise for what? Usurpation of state and county rights.



## PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

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Ecosystem management and Forest Health are mutually exclusive.

How much data is available to develop this Purpose and Need - are we crying wolf?

How many Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management people are involved? Are we creating another Agency?

Are tools/models available to implement based on data.

Do they have bureaucracy in place to make this work?

Project scale deals with higher areas when problems (Salmon/Chinook) begin in Pacific Ocean.

Needs are encompassing.

Urban encroachment is not addressed.

Need more efficiency of harvest supply method with faster pro-management techniques.

BLM and FS are talking to each other.

Do all government agencies have to abide by this plan or will they be working under different plans.

"Change in Forest Plan and Structure" should be highlighted as the most important purpose.

Unique areas (eg. RNA's) need to be outside of general management goals.

Unique Areas (RNA's) should be eliminated with move toward Ecosystem Management.

Objectives are too narrow and need to address social and economic needs of the entire area.

Noxious weeds: something needs to be done to take action on eradication inside and outside wilderness.

Are the effects of wildlife (elk, deer, beaver) on riparian areas being addressed, relative to sedimentation, bank stabilization, stream temperature and forage usage?

Scope is too narrow and needs to include the whole system (federal dams, ocean ecosystem, weather patterns/systems, farm land, private forest land).

There is need to consider impacts of wildlife management (fire policy, grazing, fisheries).

What is the scope of fire management decisions - how will fire be handled?



PURPOSE

AND NEED

Need to address fires escaped from wilderness into managed areas.

Need to recognize, address, protect and/or manage cultural resources (historic and prehistoric).

In general it is good.

Tend to put people behind plans and animals, should be first.

Ought to recognize that we can produce goods and services without causing irreparable harm - agree.

Shrub and grassland ecosystem health needs are greater than forest ecosystem's, because they are less represented than they have historically been.

Need to describe options available to future generations.

Explain Forest Health Initiative and how this will correspond.

Reduction in soil fertility, how is soil fertility being measured?

Cautions how use words "patches and corridors" - don't say that having them is a cure-all. Terms thrown around loosely.

Critical nutrients - how will they be increased.

Do not agree with video and crust from wildfire, fire sanitizes dirt.

Fires cause more erosion than logging.

Fires cause changes in soil fertility, causes more erosion and noxious weeds.

Duplication of what FS has done for last 20 years. No great scientific evidence that will change anything.

Decisions would be better if based on local knowledge and experience.

PROPOSED ACTION

PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

How will implementation (eg. riparian buffers) affect private landowners?

Breakup of range lands/rip./etc. - good way to address it.

Page 11 - "Guidelines. Skill banks..." This is most positive paragraph in document.

Proposed action should conduct activities to solve Forest Health problems and ensure survival of endangered species.

Focus of activities for endangered species should be on species that can be helped...not on those that can't.

Focus on endangered species as indicators of potentially catastrophic conditions.



Timber lands should be analyzed for forest health regardless of classification (eg. wilderness).

Should have more selective harvest regardless of method (e.g. helicopter, cable, etc.)

How would proposed management plan be implemented if in conflict with ESA?

Human aspect is most important part.

Don't ignore global economy.

Need opportunity for each project to be reviewed site specifically and there could be a deviance from standards and guidelines in the UCRB EIS if appropriate.

What are the economic and cultural impacts to communities within the EIS area by the proposed action? (i.e. as a result of or changes in wood gathering, mushrooming, access for recreation, etc.)

Need to address economic relationships in the action plan (proposed action)

Develop a cooperative program with the Canadian government to include that portion of the UCRB outside of the U.S.

Standards and guidelines too specific in the application to management in UCRB.

Specific enough with UCRB objectives so that an EIS doesn't need to be performed for every action.

Page 11 of proposed action, where does volume come from? 1.1 billion bf?

How is the EIS going to effect the type of restocking of tree species and how is this going to effect economics/jobs?

(Page 10) Patch size in migration corridor: Application should be specific to ecosystem and species.

"Natural Scenic Condition" (page 11): Need to be defined before it is part of an objective; what demand is the 1% increase responding to?

(Page 11) What is the definition of "Current Levels of Timber Harvest" - how will potential harvest level decrease be enforced, need stronger statements.

Use the state (IDL) process (IDAFISH/BMP's CWE) as the primary guides.

Need more monitoring references.

Example obj. are too broad and don't recognize diversity in local landscapes.

Objectives for terrestrial and for riparian are in conflict.

Pg. 5 - Have real reservation of our use of terms patches & corridors. Discussion of patches & corridors needs to be species specific and landscape specific.

Restoration time frames may be insufficient (i.e. whitebark pine --> 30 years - too long, needs higher priority shortened time frames).

Federal agencies need to utilize the knowledge and skills of the state and private professionals (page 11).

Objectives need a reference to dead and down wood.

#### OTHER ISSUES

What is driving this effort...litigation, ESA, what?

The language used in the video is not understandable by the general public - needs to be clear, concise and not federal lingo.

Info flow (top --> down) is not adequate for local people to understand impacts of decisions to local communities - suggest extensive reading rooms to be able to see reference documents (e.g. Forest Health Report).

EIS process and info availability is covered by law, scientific process is not.

How will Nez Perce Tribe be tied into process?

How many overlapping studies are going on in the basin?

Why is natural sediment okay, while management derived sediment isn't (i.e. from Wilderness fires vs other sources ---> effects on fish)

Participants were concerned about lack of time to review and understand info presented (they found when they had a question, if they read further, found info - ineffective means of gathering meaningful input).

Are studies and directives going to be available for public review (relative to different assumptions about P&N)?

Why were Salmon and Challis dropped from downlink session? (Need for equal opportunity to comment everywhere)

Need info on how UCRB and PACFISH EIS fits with other project decision making.

Concern from participants that information is not presented in a way that most people can understand, both technically and just in terms of organization (video, handouts).

Needs to be clear and concise, not federal agency lingo.

What percent of habitat for anadromous fish is being used and if it isn't, how can we be entirely responsible for correcting that?

Would like info on time frame and cost of study.

Is decision subject to appeal? Will it be appealed?

How many overlapping studies are going in the basin?



Why is natural sediment okay, while management derived sediment isn't (i.e. from wilderness fires vs. other sources - effects on fish)?

Are there definitions (purpose and need) for things like DGC, social values, ecological capabilities available to the public so input is valuable.

Will this be a law that all agencies will need to follow? How will interagency politics play in?

Team needs to make it known to public how they can get info on methods and classification systems on which standards & guidelines are based.

State and local government not being involved, even though will affect both.

Private property rights are involved.

Economic issues and consequences seem to be last, should be first.

Tend to put people behind plants and animals - should be first.

Everything is too scientific, example: hybrid grasses on range a problem.

Do away with fish hatcheries, let fish do natural things.

Go back to rangers managing certain areas, do away with 2/3 of scientific stuff.

Some assertions that drive objectives have not been validated by Walla-Walla.

Concerned that reinventing government/Forest Service is based on efforts like this, putting cart before the horse.

Concerned that we are shutting everything down while doing this, won't be implemented until after 2000 and will lose local infrastructure in meantime.

What driving this effort...litigation, ESA, what?

### UCRBits...

*The American explorer, Robert Gray explored the mouth of the Columbia River in 1792. He named the river for his ship. The Lewis and Clark expedition explored the lower Columbia from 1805 to 1806 and David Thompson, a Canadian surveyor and explorer, followed the river from its source to its mouth in 1811.*

PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

PARTICIPANTS

WAYNE HARVEY  
ERICA KEMERY  
JACK A. ROSE  
TOM BLANCHARD  
LYNNE STONE  
DEB KRONENBERG  
PAT JOHNSON  
TEENA CECIL  
BERNICE PAIGE  
DAVID PAIGE  
SUSAN DOYLE  
TIM KEMERY  
LINDA NORRIS  
DICK MEYER  
LESLIE CAMERON  
MILTON FIFE

Educate people to look at longer periods of time (800 years)

Empower local decisions and empower people at a local level.

How management will effect all of the resource uses.

Coordinate decision and implementation between BLM/FS AND states affected.

Needs to closely examine mining. (Salmon habitat needs especially)  
Cyanide processing and its effect on the environment.

How will agencies proceed with the completed document versus other federal and state laws.

More emphasis on recreation.

Concern of enormity and scope and cost of doing this document.

Have not addressed human actions as a factor.

Have not addressed our past activities as cause of the problem(s) - over use, introduction of exotics, management practices.

Document needs to be kept simple. (weather patterns, pollen studies, etc.)

Look at humans current and historic activities and the consequences ... what its done to the environment.

Summary PN paragraph page12. Very large sentence would lie ti explained. It starts.."Changing human values..."

Different P&N in the document that what is stated by the EPA and the Dept. of Interior . Internal working orders related to ecosystem management in the West. Different agendas for different agencies.

Need a uniform mandate as it relates to different agencies and grazing practices.

Need to remember that these lands belong to all public and not the local communities or states.

Nuclear waste as it relates to the document (INEL not included)

Sound science is politically and culturally biased.

Surveys needed for indigent animal needs.  
Page 16... cows, sheep, and elk do not have the same needs.

Water quality will be an indicator of whether we are doing a good job.

Not all fire is catastrophic and should not be used as an excuse for the timber management.





How come all pictures of recreation were positive and all pictures of fire were bad?  
Continue to have ability to freely roam public lands.

### UCRBits...

*Utah's two largest natural lakes, Great Salt Lake and Utah Lake, are remnants of a much larger body of water, the ancient Lake Bonneville, which at one time occupied much of Utah's Great Basin.*

### PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

Need to show more wildlife/watershed needs and presence, NOT just timber production.

Pg. 14 - Shrub land ecosystem objectives - seems to be biased towards continued grazing. Need to look at AUM's authorization and suitability.

Omission of mining - NEEDS to be addressed.

How will science integration team be incorporated into the proposed action?

Need to focus on transition of rural communities who have extractive based economy into the 21st century with job retraining and restoration of damage terrain.

By even sitting and commenting (e.g. we like this, we don't like that, etc.), here at this scoping, we imply that we have bought into this whole process. That isn't necessarily true. Is this plan acceptable to the American people?

Would like to see Congressional approval of this plan.

After thinning activity, will scenic value still remain?

Page 17, Para 2 from the bottom. Take the dams out. That's the only way to repair fisheries. This report is culturally biased. NMFS is not putting their attention where it is needed. They are not scientifically sound.

Throw out whole draft. Need to base proposed actions on sound ecological basis. This document is not. We don't truly understand ecosystems processes yet. We are not looking at the whole picture. This PA seems to be based solely on resource extraction. It negates this whole exercise.

Transformation of rural communities needs to be based on the fact that their current life-styles is not acceptable. There is not enough left (of the resources) to maintain the existing life-styles. We need to understand the processes that created these communities. We've overextracted, that's why these communities are dying.

It appears there is a DELIBERATE omission of mining.

Confusion about what the plan will accomplish, from a professional forester's perspective? I understand ecosystems, but I am not sure where this is headed.

What is a going to happen in the interim (stop gap) until this plan is completed?

Nothing in this document recognizes the dewatering of streams and its effects (irrigation).

There is too large an area being covered. Need to focus on problem areas.

All decisions of action must be open ended so when the actions are not working they can be altered.

No new road building on public land.

## UCRBits. . .

*Idaho, with an area of 83,574 sq miles, is the 14th largest state in the United States; 60.6 percent of the land is owned by the federal government. The state is roughly triangular in shape, and its extreme dimensions are about 480 miles from north to south and about 310 mi from east to west. Its elevations range from 710 ft along the Snake River at Lewiston to 12,662 ft atop Borah Peak. The approximate mean elevation is 5000 ft.*



# HAMILTON

## PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

### PARTICIPANTS

MARTY ALMQUIST  
GARY MILNER  
BOB & CAROL  
BANCROFT  
MOLLY BEER  
MARSHALL BLOOM  
BILL BRADT  
STEWART BRANDBORG  
FRED BURNELL  
PAT BURNELL  
PAT CONNELL  
DAVID DELSORDO  
BARRY DUTTON  
LINDA DWORAK  
KIRBY ERICKSON  
JIM FREEMAN  
DOYLE GERRARD  
KAY GERVAIS  
BRIAN GILBERT  
BILL GOOD  
JOSEPH R. GRAY  
JOHN GROVE  
ART GUSSA  
HARVEY HACKETT  
BILL HAGER  
BRUCE HANDS  
KATHLEEN HANDS  
MADELYN KEMPF  
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LEO LEITINGER  
JON LIENEMAN  
MARGIE LIENEMAN  
RON MEES  
CLIFTON MERRITT  
DORIS MILNER  
TERRY NOBLES

Need to show relationship of other factors in the carbon cycle - past silviculture, urbanization, fire.

Need to keep in context the effects of public land management activities with activities outside the area - dams, exotics, fishing for migratory fish stocks.

Concerned about over emphasis on catastrophic fires and the associated time frames - are catastrophic fires always bad? What criteria is used to define catastrophic.

Grossly over reacting to carbon cycle in terms of danger provided by fire (only 44 significant years of fire suppression).

Didn't address the diminishing of the forests through roading, logging and development.

Didn't address the management of fire suppression - need to redirect policy (less forceful action taken) - more of a natural course - mimic nature.

Time for EIS process is too short - terrible haste to complete - scientific studies take time.

Fuel loading comes from mismanagement of forests - need more prescribed fires need more natural fires.

Human component is important - road construction harvesting prescriptions, timber supply (burn or use), need to approach management from a different perspective.

Document thrust need to focus on the sustainability of the resources.

More emphasis on recreation (part of human component).

Preserve every existing species (plant and animal and fish).

Taking care of vegetation alone won't solve ecosystem problems.

Repair past damages to our resources.

Identified correct purpose and need - to first approximation.

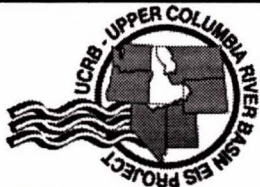
Left out was discussion of resolution of current roadless areas.

Not identified - need to review responsiveness of the bureaucrats (agency) - to the issues that are identified.

Feels Congress will identify roadless-hopefully before the completion of this UCRB project.

Need a plan but need executive--they must live by plans.

Never mentioned E.S.A.



**PARTICIPANTS  
CONTINUED...**

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AL PONTON  
NAOMI POWELL  
WYNN RAINBOLT  
TOM SATHER  
VINA SPENCER  
DEBRA SWATSKI  
GREG WATSON**

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Agrees need to do it - large roadless areas should be set aside - should be connected - roadless must be protected:

a. Bluejoint b. Allan Mountain c. Tolan-Reimel d. Beaver Lake  
e. Anderson Mountain f. North Big Hole g. Sapphires h.  
Balsam i. Stoney Mountain j. Roadless on Bitterroot face  
k. Sleeping Child and large complexes, like  
Yellowstone, Salmon, Selway, Scapegoat/Bob Marshall, Glacier.

Concern about the way it is being done-financed.

Need to be recognized that it is appropriate that the government takes this on and government is acting to maintain these public lands in public trust for all Americans!

Water for irrigation not addressed.

Need to address old stand timber.

Make recovery of all declining species (birds, mammals, fish) the highest priority in this planning effort.

ESM - first. Other projects are part of this.

Needs are urgent - project long - need interim action.

Approaching on ecosystem basin should have been done to start with - "the way to go".

If the forest service is trustworthy - this must be intelligent way to go however don't trust forest service need strict watchdog.

Most important thing is habitat - water quality is where habitat - pull out all stops to study water quality.

Let's think about the human health social/human element. Not only on public lands also on private lands in valley.

Sustainable resource management - follow dictate on scientific method. Stick to science and not on pressures of particular groups.

Roadless lands should be left inviolate.

Preserve connecting biological areas and corridors (i.e. Selway Bitterroot/Bob Marshall). Can be done with sustainable management using scientific base and not be flimflammed like in past 40 years.

Need to base choices from science (don't put science in the appendix) science and sociology.

Designated wilderness should be part of the study.

Scientifically quantifies and socially qualifies limits of outputs from area vs. demand/expectation of the same outputs by population.



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Regionalism Feds-States rights. What is purpose of reorganizing the forest service? (RO move to Denver)

Forest service must recognize all ills can't be cured by cutting and burning over stocked timber stands - water impactment, loss of topsoil, overgrazing, mine waste and pollution.

Forest service, BLM and states should be active in preventing water pollution.

EM should start by determining what we set aside for wildlife and threatened and endangered species habitat.

Roadless areas are not just social-important biology issues as well as science has pointed out needs urgent attention.

Necessity of building public trust on the process (UCRB) by strictly adhering to dictates of scientific research.

Need to manage soil through managing vegetation. Soil is the primary. Hasn't been managed at (FS & BLM). The farmer has been managing the soil.

We need a balanced approach to both sides (i.e. fishing vs. non-fishing).

Concern federally driven - should be state driven (concerned for MT.).

Concerned with Salmon - very important resource - don't study it until there are no salmon left.

Agree with federal driven because of the requirement that ecosystems are intertwined - what will happen but also need more state involvement (President & congress) under new administration (concern longevity of the plan). What's the permanency.

FS and BLM incompetent. Problems are identified in the video of FS and BLM making. We shouldn't be given a bigger task (bloated bureaucracy).

Reluctant to give power to the federal government-like to see remain at state level - use private enterprises (i.e. ranchers, recreation, farmers-the people not the government)

November 8th downsize government, this plan is the opposite. This should be done on the state level. What's the cost? Deal with unroaded and roadless areas. Recognize the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act (bill) as a basis.

Have State take a stronger role. Have more involvement with USFWS and National Marine Fisheries.

Deal with wildlife and core habitat areas, migration routes, road density levels and base on good science.

Address external context of issues, i.e. dams, treaty rights, and offshore fishing for salmon issue.

Other issues are soil protection, clearcutting and salvage.

## PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

Proposed action is not specific as to the type of timber harvest practices planned, i.e. clearcutting, selection, logging systems, transportation systems.

Need to address how administrative red tape is affecting resource outputs.

Are incidental impacts to forest management being adequately addressed, i.e. how are needs for road building addressed?

Strongly agree with not using PACFISH, objectives of DFC (desired future condition) should be based on watershed geomorphology.

Aquatic goals and standards are too general.

Scenic, grazing value objectives are too precise.

Concerned that the timber and grazing 25~ limits might not meet ecologic objectives. Plan isn't specific enough in terms of areas (drainage) - need time to address each area.

Scientific basis for study being used isn't sufficient in terms of historical and quantitative base studies.

Prescribed burns can be done more frequently and with less intensity.

Focus of operations will be on low elevation PP (ponderosa pine) areas and all else ignored.

No prescribed burns in spring because of negative impact on breeding animals.

Page 11 (of the Proposed Action) - why 25~ guideline already set for timber harvest reduction - should set planned results after study.

Page 14 (of the Proposed Action) - deferred and transfer grazing guidelines liberal and lenient - why?

Define current levels of timber harvest better - timelines, averages? (1.1 billion?)

Need to address biological corridors and erosive soils.

Are salvage sales and logging in general covered sufficiently.

Likes the concept of trying to recreate a functional system with recognition of the role of natural disturbance, but this is less effective in the aquatic systems because it is too prescriptive and generic.

Question how they are going to prioritize the broad range of objectives.

The way we address forest health should be through forest management rather than through natural occurrences.

Not enough detail - can't tell what is planned to be done, i.e. what activities will get us to an open pine stand?

Too much focus on human intervention rather than natural processes.

Concern of potential conflict of science and law and policy.



Get off kick of prescribing roading and burning as panacea for managing forest lands - burn under most careful control and supervision and scientific justification.

Disagree with burning policy of Forest Service "Let Burn".

Get lobbyists to send to congress so they can hear what we're hearing and get some funding for it - funding to implement scientific solutions.

Exotic species - i.e. bull trout vs. brook trout not enough emphasis on species interest not just dry lands, streams and aquatics.

Why do we need scientific - use common sense instead like the pioneers.

Keep public broad spectrum - fully involved/informed through whole process, providing them with best possible scientific data upon which to base directions of future management (a continuing process).

Economic and scientific process should be separate. Science come up with reports and then economists work with them otherwise scientific solutions will become nonscientific.

Socioeconomic objectives should be biased in favor of local communities as opposed to out of region recreational and aesthetic desires.

Object to use of specific # page 11 - forest objective #13 (1.1 billion board feet).

Insufficient attention to control of noxious and exotic plants!! And all landscapes.

Object to over emphasis on vegetative problems. Not enough on wildlife, fish (declining species).

Stated that Ranger District and Resource Area should be dominate management unit - direction from ground rather than above.

Based on land capability (all activities).

Reference page 13 (Proposed Action) - stress fish and wildlife, meet goals as far as possible, but will not be able to on fish census without considering dams. Acknowledge limitation of federal land manager to mitigate problem arising on land outside BLM & FS control.

Objective 6, page 14 - basing on economics rather than land capability.

Strongly objects (page 14) allotments 25~ reduction AUM. Says should be looking at 2/3 reduction in AUM's at least (min).

Objected to use of numbers (numerical targets). Should be based on land capabilities.

Must address - there is no mechanism for monitoring compliance.

Like to see trends at 5 years instead of 10 (page 14 & 15).

Create Upper Columbia River Basin steering committee to coordinate local efforts.

Biannual review of sub-basin activities and progress for continuity and maintain communication.

Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management managing vegetation - should be managing soil.

Did not have time to read about proposed actions.

Did not have time to focus on hiring--is on Federal level should be on State and local level.

Do not hire more federal employees to get the work done.

Challenge proposed action by independent group.

After consensus formed, try to use taxpayers, i.e. ranchers, farmers to bring us back to a balance.

Challenge proposed action. Concern all scientific data is federal generated and one-sided.

Approach to proposed actions does not place enough emphasis on people as a component of the ecosystem, their life-style, ability to contribute to the effort. Not strictly resources needs and recreation needs.

Feels there are some good proposed actions in here - they should start implementing right now.

Objections are goals, they are clear, but solutions are vague/unclear and there is doubt the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management can implement.

Typical government rule, will try to do a blanket rule or regulation. Need flexibility--locally induced control. States should control.

Question the scientific basis - may not be sufficient in terms of historical and quantitative base studies:

- object to numerical targets - like to see trends
- doubtful that solutions can be implemented

Approach does not place enough emphasis on people as a component of the ecosystem, their life-styles and ability to contribute to effort. Economic and scientific process should be separate. Science comes up with reports then have economists work on.

Must address that no mechanism for monitoring and compliance.

Too much emphasis on human intervention and on solutions such as burning or roading for access.

Specific items not addressed - soil, biological corridors, salvage, logging systems, grazing allowances.



## OTHER ISSUES

### OTHER ISSUES

The focus is on resources, and they are important, but not the inherent value of nature.

Concern: controlled input IMPLIES that is done deal.

State Rights - State solution for the overall problem. Too much Federal domination.

Soil - need to manage the soil for the things we want the soil to do or to support, and we need to use fire.

Concerns about deadline, don't have time to pull information together. Solutions will be premature and unsatisfactory.

Concerned same as above (didn't have time to pull information together)...like to add didn't receive information in time to read information and share with the Back Country Horseman.

Still concerned about Salmon - that they won't be taken care of in time.

Is there financing? How we spend our money!

Will money be available in the future to finance what comes out of this?

Ensure money for current projects not be diverted for this planning effort.

Ensure federal control is maintained on federal lands.

Recognize unroaded wildlands play a key role~ in the economics of Montana and Idaho.

Maintenance of watersheds, wildlife, fisheries, irrigations, recreation.

Increase funding for ecosystem research!

Permanent monitoring sites set up to assess progress of restoring sites.

World not coming to end and trends need to be reversed and this is a good start.

Specific objective for improving recreational activities/opportunities (primitive and roadless). Management of roadless.

Consider timber products, grazing as commodities as contributing to the economy.

Regular report on progress being made by sub-river basins.

Environmental Impact Statement needs to address what's happening on private lands.

Make sure you show how comments are implemented - if not implemented why?

Needs more localized decision and more input.

Do something to convince the people that their input is being used, because of past experience, there is a lack of public trust.

Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management program is inflexible to deal with special problems, i.e. Salmon. The program has to be completed before anything is done.

Need to be able to use scoping information to cure other than public land issues (i.e. dams).

EIS (environmental impact statement) need to address what's happening on private lands.

Need interagency cooperation: land management agencies and organizations, business and private industry Forests.

More emphasis based on restoration and road closure enforcements.

Need more objectives and standards: core habitat areas and migration routes, road density levels; based on good science.

Work more Native American issues and concerns into the EIS (environmental impact statement).

Worry that vegetative management dominates plan.

Need more agency involvement: Fish and Wildlife, National Marine Fisheries Service.

Need to control salvage sale - don't use categorical exclusion, use NEPA (national environmental policy act) process "light it, fight it and log it".

Districts know the problems. Let them take over and get going.

Concern over amount of money spent.

Over emphasis on carbon cycle has biased whole process.

Biting off more than can chew: land mass, resources involved can't get specific enough.

To prescribe by ecosystem is putting cart before the horse.

Why the big rush? Can we find out what we need to know in the time involved?

Need more other agency emphasis. Foresters need expanded help with ecosystem needs. (Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management shouldn't be lead.) Need important help, not feds.

Likes Bureau of Land Management, United State Forest Service coordination. Deal with unroaded and roadless areas. Recognize the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act (bill) as a basis.

Have State take a stronger role. Have more involvement with USFWS and National Marine Fisheries.

Deal with wildlife and core habitat areas, migration routes, road density levels and base on good science.

Address external context of issues, i.e. dams, treaty rights, and offshore fishing for salmon issue.

Soil protection, clearcutting and salvage.



PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

PARTICIPANTS

GIL ALEXANDER  
MARILYN ALEXANDER  
AL KINGTON  
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KATHLEEN MARQUARDT  
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DON KERN  
RICHARD LLEWELLYN  
MIKE VASHRO  
GEORGE HIRCHENBERGER  
CHRIS MEHUS  
SCOTT A. SETTLE  
RUSSELL SAMPLEY  
CHRISTINE SAMPLEY  
JIM GUEST  
BILL KAISER

How will the levels of planning be prioritized? Will site specific analysis take priority over geological and basin wide analysis?

Should be a way to identify minimum levels for both biological integrity and the ecosystem integrity (including socioeconomic factors).

How will the priorities be set in terms of specific components. (can we manage for all components in an integrated fashion)

One massive component is a vehicle to convey understanding to people RE: Who, What, and When ... will happen.

Too much emphasis on human need in purpose and need ... Focus should be on bio/physical restoration. (Emphasis on biology, science, and geography not economics)

Documentation for social and especially community needs are short changed in Purpose and Need Statement.

Need trend analysis to assess biological, geography, and economics.

Assumption that there is a forest health problem may not be true on a basin-wide level.

Disagree that "many forests are crippled and sick" ... To much emphasis on these as drivers.

Purpose and need has heavy emphasis on management activities ... Large roadless areas may be healthiest forests.

Need to look at roads and management trends ... need to identify that some management activities may contribute to forest health problems.

"Catastrophic" fires may be okay some instances [may be a natural event].

No statement of timing ... when do we begin, what?

Need to address rapid growth ... demographic trends.

Where will funding come from to protect all the species an carry out other activities. (i.e. implement ecosystem management).

Recognize that "foot loose" businesses are also drawn to Montana because of cheap operating expenses.

Purpose and needs should address the examination of trade-offs (how it should be made).

Product should clearly quantify and delineate the "winners and losers" in the decision.

Not prepared to comment without prior information.



PURPOSE

Need to protect water habitat for wildlife and fish that logging and mining has damaged. Road construction has damaged country: reduces critical habitat needed by wildlife.

User conflicts (resource related) are all through North West can purpose and need address the disagreements on site specific basis, ie: ranching, recreation, hunters vs. logging. Bitter conflicts and no process for resolution.

Add an avenue for conflict resolution and purpose and need.

AND

Mining and logging etc. result in products that we need. These can be produced in ecologically sound manner. General public needs to be told this.

NEED

Purpose and need should address public health, toxic exposures, infectious diseases. Water quality, brucellosis, air quality.

Restoration of anadromous fish stock is basis of purpose and need. Should be stated as a major issue.

Profitability and feasibility of making a living: ranching. If changes resulting from this are so major, it may force some businesses out. Knowledge passed on from generations in agriculture may be lost. Cultural effects may be significant. Family 'ecosystem' has been established over the years. Also related to culture of our communities, hunting, and recreation. (Pg. 25 human needs)

Human needs makes no mention of aesthetic values.

PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

PROPOSED ACTION

The targets outlines in the proposed action and slides shown may be too simplistic... Do the prescriptions recognize a wide range of diversity within forest types?

Nothing that addresses socio-economics and communities in depth and meaningful way.

Setting objective levels are presented in the document prior to completion of the analysis.

No specific objective to protect roadless areas.

Numbers throughout the document appear to be political in nature without a scientific base.

Management direction scales are too broad and lack site specificity.

Water:

Restore productive healthy system before initiating activities that impact the systems.

System connectivity between managing reserve areas ... eg: natural areas, roadless areas, etc.



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Use computer predictive tools (state of the art) to simulate first ... reduce "real time" experimentation with unknown or unanticipated results.

How will the implementation be prioritized ... eg: some things will have concurrence and can move forward; other issues will need to hammer out.

Is specific legislation needed to implement any action... What about issue resolution and/or conflicts in existing law?

Proposal needs to address how communities can work together to accomplish restoration projects... How can this tie to community stability.

Is this a plan to implement large scale logging in the name of ecosystem management.

Be careful in applying broad - based objectives for riparian areas. Need to stay inclose communication with scientific community. Lots of variability. Need flexibility built in. Can't be too narrow.

Take into account the difference in ecosystem, environment, geographic area, climatic differences. Differences in environment. The drier the climate is, the more critical the riparian areas are.

Page 11 - OBJ #2, Page 14 - OBJ #2. Negative language implied decrease. Try and increase employment through an ecological sound balance. The level limits flexibility mentioned the maintenance of rural culture.

Be cautious of increasing livestock use into areas where cows and sheep have not been historically.

Have to look at long term goals to maintain ecological stability.

Page 14 - OBJ #2. Look at establishing DFC for vegetative communities.

Need to address stronger community interactions. Ranchers and hunters have become allies. Need wording to facilitate common ground to get them together.

## OTHER ISSUES

### OTHER ISSUES

Once decisions are made... have "is an obligation to follow-up with something other than thick, complex documents... forums that allow dialogue and public education where feedback can occur.

Process and mechanism to allow for change with changed conditions or new information.

What is unified FS/BLM definition of ecosystem management.

Where are the assurances that the actions will meet NFMA, NEPA, EPA regulations. Clean Air and water Acts.

Any correlation between this planning process and the Columbia River Basin water management planning? Are we going to pursue a "fix" in connections with others.

How can we save this will be enforced? Policy adherence ensure quality management.

What exact national/international harvest levels in what is real cost of treating forests. How can we get this up to its true market value?

Will this process go beyond our borders?

How/where can we produce at the least cost.

Will we have a local/regional/international economic analysis of what we're trying accomplish and what we actually do? What's the full range of costs?

What changes does FS/BLM see in order to implement?

FS needs to look for more acceptable ways to establish riparian areas. More universal accepted methods.

Will federal land based be increased as a result of this analysis.

New fire regime: How will you deal with in holders and adjacent landowners?

Is there a mention of maintaining a current level of roadless areas and at least present wilderness areas? Does this include removing roads?

### UCRBits...

*The source of the Columbia River is in southeastern British Columbia which was formerly known as the Oregon River. The Columbia River is about 1245 miles long. About one-third of its course is in Canada. The Columbia and its tributaries together drain a vast basin of about 260,00 sq. mi.*



## IDAHO FALLS

### PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

#### PARTICIPANTS

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JERRY JAYNE  
DON HARRISON  
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RICHARD A. SCHWARZ  
JEFF SIDDOWAY

Is there a legislative mandate allowing this broad (basin wide) of an EIS, including Forests, BLM, States, Basins, etc?

Does this effort exceed the authority of NEPA, NFMA and FLPMA?

Does it make good overall management sense to do this?

Define economic sustainability and what the limits are.

Define the true costs of management and operation on public land and internalize it.

Modify the purpose and need statement to move (from page 6) to the beginning the sentences beginning "Management objectives are needed that balance instead of blend ...".

Will the result of the EIS be business as usual with ecosystem management secondary (commodity driven)?

Concern with over management.

What ever is done should be in favor of protecting and restoring the ecosystem.

The role that resource based industries have played in protecting open space and stable rural communities. Document these roles.

We will find consensus through counties, states and congress as contrasted to a federal imposed process.

The UCRB must protect the riparian areas so when the fish passage problems are resolved there will be adequate habitat for the fish.

Look at the definition of need and purpose and sharply define how purpose meets the need.

UCRB should not deal with the anadromous fish issue because the real issue is the eight down stream dams.

If UCRB does deal with it the non-salmon forests should not be impacted by the direction: Caribou, Bridger-Teton, Targhee.

Consensus is needed for development of the strategy and implementation of same (the strategy).

The recreation values haven't been addressed in the Purpose and Need statement. There is no strategy for including recreation in the UCRB.

Unless the statement of Purpose and Need is concise and comprehensive enough, the EIS will fail.

UCRB should only develop broad direction to goals and objectives. Do not address site-specific standards and guidelines or management practices.



## PURPOSE

UCRB should recognize the high values of the remaining wild lands, including the roadless areas.

UCRB should preserve large tracts of unroaded areas to serve as biological reserves.

UCRB should not make land allocation decisions.

All Three components are of equal importance.

Mans future physical and mental needs must be accomplished.

Ground rule should be laid concerning how outside policy, regulations (endangered species act, etc,) will be incorporated.

This process should consider changes in the endangered species act.

Consideration should be given to the effect of other countries.

Work toward the good of the entire system.

What is the relationship between this effort and the ten year forest plan or other plans, EISs and etc.

Should recognize the importance of government lands in source and production of water and water quality.

To what level do we want to restore things?

Should the focus be "to restore" or "to maintain" or both?

All impacts on private lands should be bought out.

Realize that there are different expectations for certain areas (eg. Wilderness), but incorporate the overall ecosystem management strategy.

## PROPOSED ACTION

**PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS**

Need a better definition of "ecosystem processes" and "appropriate rates".

Should assure that all viable alternatives and standards and guidelines are analyzed.

Show an example of an interrelationship for social, economic, ecological aspects.

A better understanding of when different areas (national parks, roadless areas, state lands etc.) Should be managed the same and/or managed differently.

Integration of different management strategies across artificial boundaries.

Congress should terminate road building budgets for both agencies.

Review existing roads for possible removal of some.

The range of historic variability should not be a basis for management, because it does not reflect longer term natural cycles.



The UCRB should catalog what the agencies are required to do, but are not funded to do. Include the cost of meeting regulations, laws and legal challenges

### UCRBits...

*Nevada is the driest state in the U.S.; average annual precipitation ranges from only four inches in the southeast to 24 inches in parts of the Sierra Nevada and the mountains of the northeast.*

### OTHER ISSUES

Concerned about Salmon and Challis not being part of today's process.

Need better communication/cooperation among all state and federal government agencies and private land owners and counties, user groups, etc.

Efforts such as this should be better advertised (public meetings).

Better publicity of where the resources are (wilderness-like recreation possibilities) for the general expanding public.

How are we going to deal with the increasing use of public lands by the public.

Need more public input in determining what standards and guidelines will be used in ecosystem management. Should not be controlled by one or two special interest groups.

Resource professionals may not be able to "do their job" because of other factors, policies, etc.

Realize that some areas are actually in "better condition" now than 30 to 40 years ago.

Comments: (The following comments were aimed mostly at the Purpose and Need Statement but often were just general comments that were captured)

## JACKSON

### COMMENTS

#### PARTICIPANTS

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DOROTHY BARTHELOMEW  
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FORREST G. MCCARTHY  
LANIE BENSON

Large wildfires have been devastating. Need to remove excess carbon by timbering or fires or both.

Management processes and, in some cases, lack of management and erratic management (policies) are problems.

Not enough local input into the scientific assessment team (just government)

People are part of the environment. Humans should be at the top of the priority list. We are part of the natural processes.

We are in system. We are equal. Trust science.

Communities need input as to how to sustain their communities.

Would like to see local input actually used!

Trying to "micro-manage" every little organism is going to be a "Monster"

Talking the talk but not walking the talk.

Concerned about the Biodiversity Treaty

Concerned about forest. Trees are everywhere and encroaching on meadows.

Do the people who draft the plans have the proper delegated powers???

Question wisdom or micro management. It is a much larger problem.

Concerned that the Wyoming Governor's Office didn't know that this meeting was going to occur.

Concerned that this will result in a BIG land lockup and public lands will be taken away.

Concerned about increased roads damaging the ecosystem.

Restoring things to what period of time and condition is unclear.

Assumptions about nutrient problems, etc. may not be correct...they are vague...this is a very Big area.

Not sure what is meant by "soil degradation"???

Concerned that grazing at high elevations may be marginal economically, etc. Want to see more native vegetation.

Concerned about the loss of human life from last summers big fires.

Is there more information, etc. on how to deal with controlled, prescribed burning???





Concerned that burns do not get out of control.

Concerned that timber sales have been reduced on the Bridger-Teton National Forest.

Science needs to identify how noxious and introduced plants species got here.

Where can we see an example of what a healthy range is???

Have a problem with solutions that are going to be proposed for grazing/grasses.

Have a problem with the NEED. The inventory hasn't been done. Look closer to see if it is really needed. Be more specific. Prove statements.

This study will be very expensive. The country may not be able to afford it right now.

How BIG is the study area? It is unclear. (250,000 square miles or 73,000 square miles?)

Be SPECIFIC! Which ones? How many? Where???

The El Nino currents, etc. and such things as sea lions may be more of a problem with the salmon than the dams.

Don't exclude the Bridger-Teton and Targhee National Forests. They are part of Mindotonka (sp.) Project.

Wyoming is concerned about sending more water downstream. We also have fisheries needs and need to use water here.

The root of things should be PEOPLE. It is a social issue.

The study should go slowly. Get the best science can. Realize will have effect on people. We must respect human issues.

Be Careful! Solutions are real responsibility.

Humans really impact hydrologic things like flows and state's rights. Economic impacts need to be considered.

### UCRBits...

*Montana is derived from a Spanish word meaning mountainous and was first applied to the territory in 1864. Montana is called the Treasure State.*

PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

PARTICIPANTS

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 RICK RILEY  
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 HEATHER HEFFERNAN  
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 FLOYD MCCUBBINS  
 STEVE BARRETT  
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 BYRON CAMERON  
 DEAN STURZ  
 CHARLES KELLER  
 CAROL DALY  
 JOHN HOSSACK  
 TERRY BICKNELL  
 DUARD JOHNSON

Changing values/clarify please, personal-monetary? )

Economic values, human values should address the stress that population growth puts on human values.

Social & economic costs of addressing these "human values", needs to be a high consideration. (2 dots)

Listing of the needs/purposes, were they in order of importance?

Need to preserve diversity in the forest.

Main purpose: Improve forest health, utilize other methods than fire.

Need for vegetative manipulation, not just by nature, proactive management.

Managers of the vegetation, fire as a tool, how much to use it.

Need to have areas that act as "seed" sources for biological diversity.

Fire as a tool, is the FS skilled enough to use it wisely?

Why doesn't the UCRB group follow the NEPA laws?

Where did the UCRB group get the authorization to deviate from NEPA regulations?

Need to keep promises, i.e. Flathead National Forest ASQ.

Purpose and Needs-needs to be more specific.

Put the forest (FNF) to a useful purpose, (economics)

Need to address harvest practices, big tree versus small trees.

What is an Ecosystem? (1 dot)

What does biological integrity mean?

Less jargon.

Restoration to pre-European man; is this valid since it is already disturbed?

Need clarification of what the goal is in relation to pre-European state.

How does this action affect freedom of private lands?

Nature is always changing; how is this addressed?

Management actions must be acceptable. Locking up should not be the only option.





**PARTICIPANTS  
CONTINUED...**

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SHEILA KELLER  
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NEIL MEYER  
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KEITH GLOVER  
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JIM HOLLOPETER  
MAYRE FLOWERS  
THAD CLOCK  
KRIS BADER  
PHYLLIS SNOW  
LARRY LOUDELL  
GEOFF POOLE  
JOHN STOKES  
SHARLON WILLOWS  
COLDEN BARTER  
RICHARD KUHLE

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Have the changes cited been human caused or natural?

At least a page that predicts what the future will look like; if we continue on the existing path.

More clarification on the fire cycle/ Carbon cycle.

Level of resolution of forest ecosystem described need to be increased.

Additional Issue/The decreased amounts of large diameter tree species in lower portions of the landscape.

More emphasis on social/economic sustainability of local/regional communities. Detailed analysis of outcomes of different alternatives.

Issue/Decline in wildlife habitat due to reduced security area.

Social need for transition from a boom and bust to an evenly sustained flow of products.

Strong issue statement on restoration of past environmental problems from logging, riparian, road restoration.

Concept of gathering information is a great idea.

Timing of info gathering, should gather science first than human ideas.

Making value judgements before knowing science, assuming what used to be is healthy.

Is there going to be a decision document?

How does this tie in with the Eastside and Flathead National Forest Planning process?

Is this tied to Marine fisheries and salmon recovery?, endangered species-is it prompted by this.

Why is the Columbia River Basin in focus? Why isn't this going all across the USA?

How is mixed ownership land going to be treated? How are private owners to gain access?

Bull trout-Montana is doing their own work trying to keep it from being listed.

Incorporate-transfer responsible, local, regional, subregional.

Use out of agency science sources.

Repeat this process, public needs to know how you propose to do this.

How much fire will return to systems? On a large scale as before pre-settlement? We can't function/have it on this large scale.

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Want silviculture to be considered a management tool - in relation to fire - use together- don't discount silviculture/range management.

Common meaning of ecosystem and forest health and resource which will lead to better understanding of ecosystem management is.

People have a very different idea of what a healthy standard is, and this creates a false sense.

What is impression of what was, what is and what can be.

Goal should be: What is potential and what we know.  
Don't fix what we can't fix.

Get feeling for time and space/Getting perspective of temporal and spatial variability in ecosystems.

Define how big an ecosystem is.

Use of catastrophic fires as an indicator of forest health is ecologically indefensible, i.e. catastrophic fires have occurred historically and will continue to occur, Catastrophic fires, generally, are indicators or are a result of climactic conditions, regardless of fuel load.

Human needs are being underestimated, needs-wants.

Include social & economic, social and economic needs should be included in scientific area of study, deal with social and economic fact and data, not opinion.

Equal balance among Social; Ecology, & Economic, Parts of the Whole

Need to Consider People! (Appears as if Trend Is Moving Towards Biological End)  
This statement appeared to be part of the first statement.

Retain Parts Of the Ecosystem, (patches), as they were historically, (not necessarily everything)

Better balance, rather than boom and bust cycles as has occurred in the PNW.

Provide more guidance on issues, (like OG, ESA) so that policies are not reset for every area.

Is this process going to follow the NEPA Process or something like what happened with the spotted owl?/what authority is going to bypass NFMA?/how is it going to effect forest plans?/will there be a decision document issued on this project?

Will the latest scientific studies have an opportunity to be challenged by independent researchers?

Consider the capacity for self renewal as a criteria for ecosystem health. (3 dots)  
Concern w/single spp.s. management; i.e. ESA, OG, Timber, Mining.

Address access management for recreation needs.



Fire, smoke in the air is a concern. To maintain clean air, do not depend on fire only.

Harvest fire-killed trees.

Logging slash could be spread over the site to maintain fertility.

How does fire effect putting nutrients back into the soil?

Need explanation of the carbon cycle, how do different actions affect the carbon cycle?

Would like to see as much diversity as possible.

Selective logging is a good tool and should be considered.

Regeneration must be ensured.

Input on control by anyone other than FS/BLM. Should have research to back up how feasible & justifiable idea is.

What actions would be or are proposed to address smaller minor species? What about birds, ferns, etc.?

Methods to harvest and manage without roads need to be developed.

No wood removal from riparian zones is not right. This is some of the best sites, if done right it will grow back.

Need to have better linkage in the objective statements between the temporal and spacial characteristics for each "ecosystem type", e.g. maintain % of O.G. by watershed in shifting pattern.

Need a specific ecosystem restoration alternative is needed, not just sustainability alternatives.

Proposal for increased \$'s for exotic weed work.

Aquatic objectives also need to address mid-scale questions of flow regimes.

Use silviculture/range management as tools along with fire to reach goals.

Goals should be formulated by communities instead of FS people.

Goals should be guided by science-broader than community.

Retain ability to respond to local needs, (national vs. local,site specific), goals may be the same-national goals may already be met. Local needs and values.

Social/economic considerations should be explored in more depth, should be equal to biology.

How does ecosystem management (being new), fit in with ESA, Multiple Use, NFMA, NEPA?

With political shift is this emphasis shifting?, How long term?

How does this impact motorized rec/use?

The numbers are a perfect example of the "cart before the horse". We don't know all the info, yet we are making a decision, ex. Page 11 25% of timber harvest.

Silvicultural proposals/range management-where is the science to back this up?, How do you know?

Multiple use of resources, save jobs and electricity, rather than save salmon, Fish and Game Department are causing fish to be as they are, salvage more timber in Montana-Middle Fork of the Flathead.

Lacks a coherent plan to deal with introduced species, including negative aspects of fish hatchery activities on nonnative species.

Omission of, considering-recognizing, as controlling aquatic & riparian, i.e. glaciated areas control gravel source.

Recognize individual potential of area rather than generalized threshold, manage for variation.

Rather than manage for pool/riffle ratio-manage for channel stability and habitat complexity & wood recruitment & pool/riffle ratio will follow.

Use as backbone the "Rapid Biotic Ecosystem Response" (RBER), to identify/prioritize for cost efficient restoration of watersheds.

Identify accountable agency BLM-FS? Who will enforce rules?

Are enough agencies involved?

What system will be used to make sure study is not stopped by lawsuits or appeals?

Study needs to be based on field knowledge and common sense approach.

Concerned that the broad goals & objectives in the EIS will override the Dec. Doc./Local site specific uniqueness.

Do more active vegetatively management, (including Timber & RX Burn), Incorporate more salvage logging in proposed action.

Concerned with the effects on riparian veg./hab., when and if drawdown occurs in reservoirs.

Concerned that past harvest practices have resulted in spring runoff & lack of sustained runoff for the rest of the year-would like to see this changed.

Is concerned that the projects' Decision will not change local/state ownership of water.

Recognize that peoples' wants and needs are different and that not everyone will be happy 100%.

Recognize that if we don't meet the needs locally, i.e. Timber Harvests, then there could be more potentially worse impacts globally.



Recognize the constraints of the existing human infrastructure, i.e. Dams, towns, powerlines.

Need a new implementation tool to restore ecosystems in addition to timber sales/land management service contracts-contracts with contractors, i.e. riparian, thinning, road obliteration.

Consider the international effect on the Columbia River Basin because of the headwaters occurring in Canada.

Need to develop more site specific assessments and analysis.

Need to develop process to increase cooperation with other agencies/landowners, stakeholders.

Dangers in making Standards & Guides too site specific.

Needs aggressive education program to gain support for efforts.

Historical condition was not static, need to look @ long period of time & range of conditions.

On dry sites old growth PP as static condition is not the objective, need to allow all ages of trees.

Some solutions, i.e. road closures, force people to concentrate in other areas.

People need to recognize risks in fire dependent., ecosystems/living in forest.

Appeal bonds.

Look at nonprofit/private solutions-hatcheries.

Water--let reservoirs fill up and then use natural rainfall to control flows.

Our water is our greatest resource; more than timber.

Other major rivers have been poorly managed, should people there dictate management of water here?

Will locals be forced out to maintain a "paradise" forest of country?

By not cleaning up/managing forest we will destroy what people nationally want to save.

People don't all agree/understand that logging could be substitute for fire effects.

People need to be educated in correct forest and water management, especially people from cities.

Perception that woods should provide wild open space.

Massive public education needed to be able to implement objective.

PROPOSED ACTION

Alternative is no action at all.

To practice ecosystem management, need access to manage forest.

Getting rid of roads will perpetuate the problems.

Management by nonmanagement is now occurring, plan needs to result in action.

Wildlife, fish, and other resource considerations "outweigh" people needs, not enough emphasis on people.

Way of life has changed because of restrictions of forest use...e.g. road closures, etc.

Scale of EIS is too large--does/will it provide specifics at the local level?

We can't lock up the forest resources and throw away the key, too many restrictions.

Just figure out how to remove the ridiculous regulations that prevent "us", man, from managing for a healthy environment, and economy, ie ESA.

OTHER ISSUES

OTHER ISSUES

Process/time limit of this meeting negated value of public involvement.

NEPA regulations., were they followed?

Science not always correct, sometimes its more fiction.

Background of team, expertise, experience?

Education/explanation of documents provided.

Technical jargon in document with no time to digest.

Have a common direction, no FS mumbo jumbo.

Enjoyed mixing with folks of varied view points.

Emphasize that timber harvest is a major tool to restore forests.

Identify that prescribed fire is a tool to restore forests.

Road closures are an issue that limit access by some individuals.

What is the advantage of closing roads, wildlife, soil, and water quality.

What is the cost of closing roads or maintaining roads.

How do we tie in with other parts of the ecosystem?

How do the agencies do anything together?

What about the state and BIA lands.

What about large tracts of private lands?



Management should be left to the experts.

Many computer models are flawed and should not be trusted.

Public input and role in making choices should be included.

Public needs experts knowledge so they can make informed choices.

Need to do correct management, not just let it get stopped by someone.

How do we factor in personal needs and wishes in forest health.

Need education backed by scientific knowledge.

Smeads Bench Bogs IDT needs to review in context of seral/climax statements!

In the social/economic analysis, the social & technical systems for resource uses should be examined.

Enforcements of regulations on local basis needs to be increased!

Add concept of refuge/biological reserves.

Exotic species invasion; higher need that is being brought forward in Purpose and Need statements.

Roadless area management needs to be included as an issue due to social/economic/biological effects!

Identify and question all assumptions.

What is overall timeline, what is next?

What is being done on accuracy of data collection?

Monitoring to include.

What happens with "gaps" in data?, i.e. temporal, regional, & individual factors.

How are standards set?

Generalized thresholds aren't applicable throughout area--site specifics need to be known.

Goals & objectives are set for region but implementation is determined locally, followed by auditing and evaluate effectiveness.

Has data being used been collected using "standard methods"?

Make sure all sides/everyone are considered before final decision is made=economic-scientific.

Effort made for public education, (not just ones coming to meetings) in order to forestall negative backlash.

Invest money in Public Relations to counteract special interests and media spin.

We do not want to see old solutions, ( that have proven to be ineffective), that dont effect real causal agents of these problems.

Consider the effects of increased transportation in effect on rural communities.

Consider the effects of dams and their operation on aquatic ecosystems.

Existing federal laws so constrain management-need to be changed/re done-ESA.

Congress should do cumulative-effects analysis for environmental laws, can't have everything, everywhere.

ESA should deal with socially important species, current use is stopping all actions.

Old laws don't fit current changing conditions and needs.

To address objective, lots of management diesel smoke, and sawdust needed, need to allow for some mistakes as we learn, will people accept?

Judicial decisions/injunctions from distant locations with limited local understanding, technicalities. 2% stops implementing the other 98% of proposal/plan.

Need authority to implement the plan.

To steal water from the upper reaches of the basin to "speed" salmon smolt to the Pacific, when the most optomistic science says that this reduces the trip by 12 hours is criminal.

USFS & BLM has same reponsibility to involve local govts. as tribes.

People are tired of restriction, resulting from the Threatened & Endangered Species Act, and now the list has been extended.

EIS should recognize success, i.e. grizzly should be delisted.

### UCRBits...

*The Northern Rockies in northern Idaho, western Montana and northeastern Washington include the Sawtooth, Cabinet, Salmon River and Clearwater mountains and the Bitterroot Range. The loftiest peaks in the section are Granite Peak 12,799 feet high and Borah Peak 12,662 feet high.*



**LEWISTON**

**PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS**

**PARTICIPANTS**

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BOB LEONARD  
CASSANDRA BOTTS  
ART SEAMENS  
JODIE McCULLOGH  
ROBERT OLSON  
DOUG FRARY  
LISA ELLSWOOD  
DON NUXOLL  
CANDY NUXOLL  
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HANK GREY  
JEFF ANKENY  
BILL MULLIGAN  
GREGG SERVHEEN  
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ROYCE COX  
PAUL BARTLETT  
BOB COLBURN

P/N fully addresses needs of plants/animal species - those that are listed and those that aren't. Human needs are not addressed on an equal par.

System" used loosely in P/N, some references to things that aren't systems at all. Some changes are natural - we have no control - climate, ocean, etc. Need to recognize these and address them.

Will EIS address varying federal land designations such as wilderness, wild and scenic rivers. It's one ecosystem and should not be managed piecemeal.

Occurrence of stand RPL fire - What time frame, - What eco type; same for insect disease, where is data for backup

Citations for carbon cycling. Angermier Karr does not address, Franklin may not be applicable here.

History misinterpreted, 1930's is not baseline, HROV NROV and may affect direction of management.

How will other ownership land factor in.

Do not overemphasize fire and the carbon as an excuse to log fire burned trees.

The role of natural areas (as defined in internal white paper) in the EIS. Lisa Lomardi has paper for reference.

Identify cause and effect, i.e.: "Increased occurrences of stand - replacement fires" - some leap to conclusion that this is the result of past management or other human factors. This may or may not be the case. We have natural fire cycles that may span 100 years or more - do study on natural changes: climate, growth cycles of tree species like lodgepole pine. There may be forest health issues or natural processes that are healthy or unhealthy.

Roads management - problem not addressed adequately. Increased use = increase problems. 4x4's particular problem in wet season. Potlatch Terry Cundy good resource for hydro. - More emphasis on forest road management to minimize erosion and water quality degradation -- both during and after harvesting operations. Increase education of the public (especially hunters) on the importance of keeping four wheel drive vehicles off of dirt during wet weather. Explore the practicality of hunter guide services using special light ground pressure, track laying vehicles (such as cushman) for packing out game. Expand the current use of barricading all non-weather roads.

H<sub>2</sub>O quality, DFCs. Need to reevaluate use of model. Need to look at all variables. Plugging in wrong #'s. Misapplying model's design.

Concern about focus on fire and carbon cycle. These are not only problem. Past logging practices not addressed adequately.



PURPOSE AND NEED

EIS team should have wildlife biologist.

Mixed lit. Citations (Peer reviewed and non-peer reviewed). Are there plans to distinguish between the two. Peer review process - scientific credibility.

Science is not based on obsolete truth and can change next week.

There will always be challenges to science, there is not finality.

Where are control sites for this forest health experiment. EIS should address this for baseline assessment.

Good focus on carbon cycling, brings public knowledge.

Good focus on increasing species #, emphasize reducing problems with declining wildlife populations - such as the increasing numbers of species listed or proposed for listing under ESA.

No discussion of wildlife and other species management prior to listing.

Forest health problem is the result of under management and not over harvest and harvest techniques.

Need to do adaptive management.

Need to manage on a sustained basis on a landscape.

Need to set a base line definition of sustainability, not necessarily timber targets.

One problem is the condition of vegetation (major problem.)

Not all problems are due to forest health decline - wildlife eradicated from being shot, dams built.

Old growth is not being managed well - leading to losses.

Ecosystems are dynamic - not same in future as now.

Why all of a sudden? Will it be implemented and maintained long-term?

Mismanagement due to bureaucracy. Not using scientific knowledge that already exists.

We've seen lots of examples of plans - does stuff get done? When do we implement?

Agencies at cross-purpose = problem. Within agencies and between.

Define Forest Health - basic need before proceeding.

Fixing habitat will not solve the whole problem - will not restore all species - other causes are from outside area.

Stop planning - start action.



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Have captured the range of issues that need to be addressed.

Same as above except that we need to prioritize issues (ex: human need is always addressed last and maybe should be thought of first).

Fear that ecosystem studies put human needs last.

Human needs are very diverse.

Human interference caused problem - human interference will solve the problem also.

Social and economic goals should be part of every alternative.

Pre-settlement appears to be a target or standard and maybe it should not - limits how you perceive.

Definition of pre-settlement needs to be accurate, not a modern public perception.

Whole strategy seems to be vegetation driven - processes are also important.

Concept of biological integrity is too limited. Need to include economic and social condition integrity.

Process industry and special interest driven and public being left out. Are adequate measures being taken in educating the public on the process.

Need to make sure the scientific team knows the forest has a finite productivity. What is going to happen to the biomass in each alternative? How much are we going to cut, to burn, to leave to decompose, etc.

Health is a value basis term - need to balance this with science.

How do you define health?

Add atmospheric health.

Discuss how you implement the plan. How is this going to be different in how the Forest Plan was or was not implemented.

Planning on the global scale without deciding on how to implement on the local level.

Sustainability

Accountability on habitat removal, i.e. road inventories, dams

Rates of change not a static condition for sustainability - rates of change is a good measure of sustainability, not a static historical condition.

Page 21 - aquatic needs issue is inconsistent with how other issues were addressed. Upland health seems to overlap with the Forest Health section.

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Emphasize sustainable forest products.

We don't need pre-European conditions.

Human needs should be first item discussed, not fifth.

Douglas fir should not be referred to as bad guy. Get lots of fast growth with fir that adds to sustainability.

Process and function not being taken into account. Local conditions are not being addressed, too broad. Mainly addressed Boise and Payette, not Northern Idaho.

Fires and catastrophic fires have to be addressed, good job.

Felt we will be able to address subregions.

Frustrated with use of biological terms.

Statement addressing common people contradicts use of biological terms.

Concerned about lumping drainages and river systems together (too big). Area in north is different from southern Idaho concerns. Will northern Idaho be addressed.

Feels there is another layer of bureaucracy in Walla Walla.

How come UCRB logo bigger than BLM and FS.

Need to address health concerns of the Forest. Glad agency is attempting to do something.

Something needs to be done in large regional scale, but must focus on local needs.

What is purpose of FS for acquiring more and more land, when there are management problems with current holdings.

Want to see specific language to maintain and enhance social and economic structure of the present rural generation of inhabitants. Like to see added to P&N statement.

See mechanism to sustain resource outputs in interim while UCRB is being completed.

Pg. 4 - Who is public, who is Krannich? Do not think this says what people in local area feel.

Concerns over how issues being addressed and process. Afraid some will get lost.

Think did a bad job of discussing fire (more benefits of fire). More discussion on sustainability of other resources besides timber.

Support concept of scientific approach.

Logging not necessarily ecological equivalent of fire, presentation implied it was.



PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

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Think it was an oversimplification of forest types and problems.

Comments that spiritual concerns were being addressed, but did not see it.

Agree that one size does not fit all.

It was stated that all things that are wrong will be addressed, what about things that are right.

Fire suppression only forest health problem addressed. What about mismanagement.

Page 14...to foster recreation and tourism. What about jobs, trickle down effect.

Do not think reduction of livestock is the issue, management is the issue.

Page 14...in-migration tied to quality of life. Why is that?

Human needs not being addressed enough, particularly local.

Not one specific solution for each problem, utilize all resources.

Do not agree with corridors, concern with corridors over existing use, need more definition on what corridors are. Do they replace existing use?

Need to do something about extreme fuel overloading on Forests.

Like to see more on stream restoration.

Biological integrity vs. biological diversity needs to be addressed.

Should step back and look at no action alternative.

Fostering recreation and tourism is not a replacement for down home jobs.

How does your plan provide for feeding and housing people.

Local people skills should be used to accomplish actions proposed.

Putting cart before horse as far as objectives are concerned. Where is scientifically sound research to generate objectives?

Page 18...Disagree with girdling trees and creating snags.

Think stream standards are too high and unrealistic.

Currently it isn't an action statement, it's an end results view.

Biological integrity expanded to ecosystem integrity such that social and economic conditions and processes are included.

Need for a hierarchy of conclusions and analysis linked to implementation and monitoring. This will allow how UCRB proposed action, analysis, and alternatives impact the actions at forest, districts, and sites.

Optimistic that "high" risk sites can be restored in 10 years.

Data used to make decisions needs to be of high quality to make these decisions. How will we insure that high quality is collected?

Quality and validity of the science peer review is essential.

Private sector and industry data doesn't seem to be considered or included.

Huge gaps in the data ---> how will this be addressed?

Expand list of ecological processes on page 1 to include social and economic.

- Income generation
- Social organization
- Provision of employment

Is historical data being included in analysis?

Page 2...Alts. should not be structured around narrow output driven themes.

Page 11..."Current harvest level should not be reduced by over 25%" - this is a politically driven statement not supported by the facts. Let the data set determine the range of alternatives.

Stay within the sustainable limits when looking at allocation of available forest productivity; how much of the carbon will be utilized, burned, decomposed.

Example objects are designed to achieve a homogeneous, steady state condition - should be expanded to reflect dynamically changing systems and structural diversity. Not limited by current political correctness.

Monitor "on the ground," data collection to fill the knowledge gaps.

Fear that things we are doing to mimic natural causes (fire) are not remotely equivalent ecological treatments.

Where's the actin?? Don't see it there - doesn't say how you are going to do anything.

Need more science and focus on ecosystems north of Salmon River greater potential for severe damage from catastrophic fire.

Must consider human needs equally ---> ecological, social, economic are three equally important parts.

Every project should include a risk analysis related to residual losses or benefits as the result of the project.

Adopt a Management Strategy" -- should say implement a strategy (same as #38).

Restoration of biological integrity needs clear definition and public input.



Stop misguided use of ESA -- separate forests interpret "may affect" differently (B.E.)

Local forest's implementation plans need to happen - EIS principles into local plans

Prioritize implemented actions - make them happen in logical order (common sense) ---> do projects that do most good first.

Shorten planning process - NEPA process, NFMA, NMFS consultation.

One size don't fit all, make it site-specific > Not like PACFISH

Broad scale implementation - improve land management stewardship; contracts - include contractor in forest protections; include methods for accomplishing work in proposed action.

Objectives: Maintain Ecological Funct. Process

- Maintain Evolutionary Potential?
- Human dist. vs. ecological dist., what is data facts?
- Measure resiliency (What is baseline controls?)
- How will these be discussed/supported in EIS?

Look at all resources and all impacts and measure relative impacts with regard to those resources (Ex. Hydrophobic soils w/fire --> stream scour, same happens with logging.)

Action must leave room for site specific adjustments.

Look to wilderness for baseline conditions.

Define terms - "historic" - what time frame

Conflicting objectives. What happens when obj. conflict? Which will prevail.

What about diversity of human experiences.

Wildlife Objective: Standards don't address entire wildlife communities.

Why is wildlife disappearing. This needs to be addressed. How can we achieve a proper mosaic. What does it take to get there. PA does not address adequately.

Human element is not factored in enough, not given priority. Impacts to and from humans.

Development of PA is leaving out key elements that will be challenged because we have not looked at all ownerships.

How will local economies/communities factor in. Look at alternatives that do not include large sales which typically not available to small bidders. Below cost sales may be needed.

Is there obj. for managing road systems to reduce erosion.

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**OTHER ISSUES**

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Old growth issues don't seem to be addressed.

Closed canopy forests are not addressed.

Need to show what areas of state are warm/moist forests, cool/moist forests, etc.

How does ESA affect the UCRB EIS (need to address).

What about agricultural issues?

Jobs and people's livelihood.

Control sites, where are there?

Where do roadless areas fit into proposed action.

Need time to review proposed action.

Quality of life issues for people.

What is going to happen with fuel overload on Forests.

Need more definition info on meetings. Not enough people understood. Some thought it just dealt with salmon.

Stream quality overemphasized.

Need to address potential economic impact of this EIS on state (long and short term).

Anybody can tie up a timber sale (any project) with a lawsuit - without any effort - FIX IT.

Current forest projects should move forward and not wait for completion of this EIS.

Timely communications needed with public on this project.

Must be different than original Forest Plan process. Look at vegetation as top issue not after management issues. Manage habitat = ecosystem management. Manage veg. for forest health first - other management objectives should fall out from it - not drive it.

Incorporate feedback loop - use biological successes in future projects.

Interim forest management direction needed during EIS preparation/implementation.

F.S. needs to tell public what the EIS effect on Forest Plans will be - amended separately? How long will that be?

Basic data - more needed?

Scientific team should be more open with its information - available to public.

How will reinvention/reorganization impact results and implementation?

Results should not affect state/private land.

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How to implement ecosystem management along political boundaries?  
Integration of ecosystem management with state/private efforts - but not  
at direction of federal government.

More realism needed, less idealism, actions need to be positive.

Each alternative should have a fiscal analysis and funding strategy.

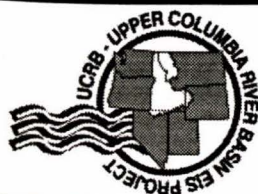
### UCRBits. . .

*The Great Basin, which includes most of Nevada and part of Utah, is between the Wasatch Range on the east and the Sierra Nevada and Cascade Range on the west. The basin is unusual in that it is an area of interior drainage, that is, its waterways drain into desert flats, not into the sea. The Humboldt River in Nevada is the only perennial stream of any size rising in the interior, but on the borders numerous short streams act as feeders to a number of mostly saline lakes, including the Great Salt Lake. The basin was formed about 2 million years ago when sedimentary rock was uplifted and dropped by movement of geologic plates.*

## PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

## PARTICIPANTS

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Need maps for riparian and aquatic ecosystems components.

The anadromous fish problems are a result of dams, not necessarily habitat degradation, and yet the solutions seem to be focusing on habitat related solutions.

There is a concern that human needs/dilemmas section does not identity constraints to Federal land permittees due to past lost biological integrity.

Information for timber supply is outdated (Keegan data as produced quarterly). Need to use 1994 data.

Is the EIS process based on politics or science? Scientific data should be subject to peer review. The process should go slow enough to allow for adequate review. The preparation time allowed for the teleconference was inadequate.

Need to recognize how much humans have controlled the environment. Need more long-term focusing. Good to make general rules for management of broad ecosystems but need specific guidance for local habitats.

Support EM concepts!! Are large tracts of state and private land considered? Need to involve state personnel in this process.

Why wasn't the Pacific Coast ecosystem part of this analysis?

Do not want big brother bureaucracy telling local areas what to do. This process should be more of a consensus.

There is still disagreement on the need for this study. It is moving too fast.

The indication that things are falling apart is based on faulty science.

There are numerous views on what the definition of a healthy environment is and how this is achieved. How will the process deal with differing views?

When defining fire suppression effects, you need to take into account inadvertent fire suppression before the FS era.

How will you choose when the ecosystem was healthy? Pre-settlement and pre-European are buzz words that appear a lot as a time when the ecosystem was healthy. It seems that is a preconceived misconception of reality in terms of forest health.

Do some of these lands need to be related to growing crops for world market contribution?

Why have we abandoned land management practices that have been developed over decades for new management practices?



PURPOSE AND NEED

There is no fiscal cost addressed in the purpose and need or the proposed action. Need to!

Critical site specific areas/issues should be set aside until this process is developed and implemented.

Not certain that the purpose and need are entirely valid. Health problem may not be as large in scale as stated. It may be restricted to smaller areas.

Include more specifics about the health of people as associated with healthy water, soils, etc.

Need a clearer statement describing broad scale and focusing over time to more specific areas and needs.

Identify significant legal conflicts in existing laws (ESA, NFMA, Clean Water Act). Identify as basic framework.

Provide a list of preparers up front.

The size of area being analyzed tends to spread responsibility over so many areas - impacts of the local area are not assessed.

Each EIS will be done using science. If the science isn't available how can they be concurrent? (Science assessment done at the same time as the EIS). Why isn't the scientific assessment done before the EIS's?

Whole procedural planning structure from large watershed-mid watershed to local or smaller watersheds and back up through the structure is essential.

Should be equal consideration on use of lands and resources in terms of production sustainability of both plant and animal, goods and services, humans and economics. The emphasis areas will result.

Could walk-ins have been accepted to this session, and if refused how does this work under NEPA? Is that acceptable? (We had walk-ins and they were incorporated into the group, however one person mentioned they had talked to someone in Boise who told them walk-ins would not be accepted).

Define and include community integrity as we have done with biological integrity i.e., community integrity being a sense of wholeness. List community integrity as a higher priority among all items.

We need a complete definition of what ecosystem is and what ecosystem management is.

How does closing out "affected" communities from this UCRB process fit under NEPA ? (The Idaho communities that did not get to participate today?)

When does one endangered species take precedence over another, ie, anadromous fish over native (salmon vs bull trout)?

Does the FS/BLM have specific directions to achieve from the President that "we" are to accomplish certain things, ie water use, etc?

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What role does the US Fish and Wildlife Service play in this UCRB effort? The FS does not talk or coordinate with the USFWS early, instead they wait till the last minute. When will they be brought in? Should be brought in first.

Concern that action plans should reflect stand replacement activities in maintenance

We want more timely distribution of materials before a meeting like this.

Are we going to replace the "native" fish in the smaller streams and how will that be done?

Why are we not salvaging bug killed, windblown, etc, rather than have a fire do it?

In draft, clearly spell out laws and which laws supersede others and clearly define the agency accountability in the ecosystem concept.

Demand that the EIS address in aggressive fashion the failing health of our forests. Diseased stands throughout the area must be treated. Current treatment through catastrophic fire loss is not acceptable for vast majority of landscapes in the UCRB. Thinning of overstocked green stands should be addressed to avoid further overstocking of fuel stocked forests.

No balance as primary emphasis is on recreation/spiritual. Socioeconomic and community needs are ignored, and are not given enough priority or attention. See Human Needs summary in Purpose and Need. Only #1 addresses these socioeconomic needs. Preconceived position that there is a decline in recreation/spiritual opportunities which we do not see in way lands are managed now. Also within managed areas wildfire, etc is on par or better than previous years.

There are specifics on AUM's grazing. Why can't this be done on timber harvest. Specific numbers and where will these numbers come from and what are stable numbers? Where did 1.1 billion in Proposed Action come from?

Breakdown by: How many people attend public meetings and how many of those write-in. How many just wrote-in and did not attend? Justify why the write-ins dominate.

Why can't the UCRB come up with site specific adjustments? How can they develop alternatives without site specific proposals? How will FS address this and will the public be allowed to interact?

Page 11, How can 25% reduction in timber harvest be compatible with stand replacement management other than let burn policy with time frames mentioned?

Want specifics on meaning of loss of "wildlife" diversity. We don't see loss - believe we are gaining diversity. We're in better shape than past history.

Encouraged to see we recognize that forest are in an unhealthy state.

In "restoring and maintaining" forest-shrub-grass, health, to what level? What's the "target"?

As to species, for recovery of T & E, are we able to do this? At what cost?



PURPOSE AND NEED

Need to scientifically define T & E, as to truly scientifically threatened (not just politically threatened) - don't limit the ecosystems being considered by political boundaries. For example, there are lots of grizzly bears in Canada so they are really not threatened.

Will the ESA override the process?

What is the chain of authority for this process?

How will this process fit with other land management laws? The final plan has to be enforceable. If litigation can stop it, we're wasting our time.

Will/can the "sound science" results from process recommend changes in existing laws?

Will this process be followed up by NEPA to make revisions/amendments to Forest Plans?

What is the need for this EIS being regional, not local?

Concerned about considering local populations of a species to be a separate endangered species.

What's the time line for this?

Will "providing sustainable, assured levels of resource outputs, including timber supply," really happen from this process?

UCRB is not an ecosystem. Trying to develop an EIS for the entire basin is a waste of time.

Identify the critical geographic areas with the highest need for forest health restoration. Let local managers manage these areas for five years, litigation free.

PROPOSED ACTION

PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

Need to clarify impacts on private property rights

Like this effort and use of technology to gather input from such a wide range of communities and people.

Objectives too specific at this time. How can you be so specific on such a broad scale analysis?

Emphasize forest health. If forests are healthy, problems will go away.

Let agencies whose job it is to manage land, do that without so much litigation and red tape.

Stay of litigation (trial period) for five years.

Emphasize that restoring forest health will take time, and may involve changes of jobs, etc.

Proposed action needs to be a sustainable level of resource outputs.

Proposed action needs to include more local control and local expertise.

Foster partnerships. Possible outcome-formal relationships between FS/counties/private to make plans. Like "campfire" agreement in Zimbabwe, or management of Nature Conservancy and others.

Use more selective cutting instead of big clearcuts.

Quicker response to catastrophic problems - use it, not waste it.

Must live within the geographic area to litigate this.

Their proposed action is short on its emphasis and commitment on wildlife and habitat.

Objectives for human activities need to be carefully reviewed. Specifically concerned about conclusions that 1) to encourage recreational tourism will maintain the viability of our rural communities (it will not) and 2) reducing current harvest levels will meet other implied objectives.

People are part of the ecosystem.

What are "keystone species"? The scoping documents needed a glossary of terms. EIS definitely needs one.

Do maps exist for the forest, shrub, grassland, and riparian/aquatic components? If not when will they be created and available?

Analysis of effects regarding rates of restoration should address effects on future federal actions.

Research suggests that large areas may produce bio-diversity and more sustainable populations than travel corridors and small patch cutting suggested in proposed action.

All proposed actions should be peer-reviewed before implementation.

Would like to see the EIS team be the lead agency in gathering the NREPA. Draw on the multi-state wilderness group in developing the Upper Columbia Wilderness Bill.

Proposed action does not address process, rather focuses on solutions. We need to focus on the process, rather than just solutions.

What is this costing and who is paying for it?



## OTHER ISSUES

### OTHER ISSUES

Concern about impact to private property rights. a) road closures; b) grizzly bear habitat; c) wolf; d) salmon; e) private development; f) private logging.

Disproportionate input from unaffected people living outside of the UCRB.

Product of the UCRB will carry so much influence the local areas will lose flexibility and won't meet local objectives.

Scoping is primarily within the UCRB area. These are national lands. Argument could be a disproportionate input from the UCRB area.

Really offensive to categorize people as "loggers or environmentalists". We can be both. This is really polarizing.

What about mining?

Use science- don't hide behind scientific "mumbo-jumbo" (esp "carbon sinks", etc).

Make use of local expertise and knowledge as equally important as academic science (models, etc).

Use real words, plain English.

If BLM & FS lands are being considered together, why not combine agencies?

How does other land ownership (Plum Cr, etc) fit into this? Will this study include a "buffer" for these lands, to account for their actions?

Will all the questions/comments be compiled and sent to all the participants with the answers prior to the Draft EIS?

What are the timelines for this project? When can we expect implementation?

Will all the questions be compiled and sent to all the participants with the answers prior to the Draft EIS.

To what level will we restore ecosystems? What is our goal?

What does ecosystem management mean? What is an ecosystem?

Clearly spell out laws that we are following. Which laws supersede others, where is our decision space based on these? Clearly define agency accountability in the ecosystem concept.

Where do private property rights fit in?

Where does the US fish and wildlife service fit? Are they partners in this?

Product of UCRB study will carry so much influence the local areas will lose flexibility to meet local area needs.

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PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

How are you going to separate political science from biological science so that a truthful answer can be had?

We should let management practices take the place of wildfire.

Would like to see this would affect the economics of the counties and school (displayed in document).

Ecosystem health has to be defined by human need first. Life will exist no matter what we do. Our purpose is to choose what kind of "life" that is.

Endangered species act has gotten out of hand. Will this continue that or resolve esa.

Stop consensus management. Promote good leadership, give ownership, expect action and results.

Protect private property rights.

Take care of natural resources to ensure and sustain quality of life.

True scientific management of natural resources to benefit man - prioritize to man's real needs.

Don't set unrealistic expectations in process, i.e. salmon recovery outside scope because dams, etc., can't be addressed; be clear in purpose and need.

Sustain rural communities by maintaining diversity in natural resource base. Be realistic in people's conflicting views on declining timber harvest.

Humans are part of ecosystem.

More forest health planning. Cut dead & dying trees and reforest.

More emphasis on removal of excess carbon for human use rather than through fire.

Endangered species act needs congressional revision, because gridlock is approaching.

Multiple use.

Is this a new study to justify old ways of management?

Economic driven consumption harvest cannot be sustained by the earth as they currently exist.

Does not see different between erosion of fire, natural or logging.

Look for a balance between people needs and wildlife needs.



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Because of dams and other outside issues, the fish issue should be defined in terms of habitat other than populations.

Will this process have any real impact on the regulations (on responsible agencies) that stifle productivity (bottleneck of regs).

Anything can be proven with statistics or scripture. Thinks the drought has more to do than self-righteous agencies. Has seen good salmon runs since dams were constructed, but declining since drought.

Has fear of a management plan that "over manages" and benefits only humans.

Ucrb area should be represented by the rest of America in it's relatively pristine state.

Before looking at habitat take care (or fix) dams first. Fix dams first, habitat is there.

No hands off set asides that inhibit future management flexibilities.

We could use some common sense.

This strategy recognizes constant change in ecosystem and that view needs more emphasis.

Worldwide/global affects of lowering the cut have not been addressed here.

One of needs is to compare what we are doing here with how private timber lands are managed, i.e. bug control, fire suppression.

Ensure government commitment to produce goods and services to American people.

Remove dead and dying timber, not to clearcut unless totally destroyed.

Don't destroy forest through mismanagement i.e. don't let it burn.

Protect rural community life-styles.

Be realistic in valuing human life-styles.

How appeals and lawsuits are affecting forest health and management.

Be careful about changing public expectations that forests can be managed for single use. Can't change reasons for national forests.

Place accountability where it belongs - i.e. dams and commercial fisheries.

More local control (citizens).

Recognize riparian/stream habitat problem...put action in most critical areas first.

Direction from 1993 has changed.

Put forest management back with the presidential administration (not judicial).

PURPOSE AND NEED

Good purpose and need statement, but get rid of the politics. Politicians need to agree with the plan to make it work.

Eliminate statement "decreasing availability of spiritually and Culturally important plants and animals to American Indians." No legal basis if FS wants to include this, they must show by what authority they can do this (treaty rights).

Eis avoid use of core areas. Don't manage for single species use.

Purpose and need should be to develop voluntary recommendations for local managers and governments.

Concern with using pacfish in this eis.

Agency accountable for the plan.

How much commitment to human needs other than recreation - wood products economics.

Humans part of ecosystem.

Govt taking too long to make decisions.

Social/economic impacts important for planning.

Not everything needs fixed - purpose & need is a mandate to act. Should be a mandate to investigate and look at the ecosystem.

Economic study of how eis will affect the communities.

Why not use forest plans until it is time for a revision.

Limitations on access - too restrictive.

PROPOSED ACTION

PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

Create a committee that will review ecological laws. Those that impede truthful, biological science should be placed on a hit list and nominated for removal from our statutes.

The proposed action should amend forest plans to prevent a lengthy implementation process.

The negative effects of fire have not been addressed nor has the positive effects of fire exclusion. Fire should only be used where other management techniques cannot be used.

Every grazing allotment on federal land should operate under a grazing management plan provided at minimum at least one half the allotment not be grazed by domestic livestock until the forage plants have matured.

Timber objective (asq) is unclear ("compatibility", or "25% reduction of current level" and what current level?) Want to maximize asq.



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It is sad that business is the engine that drives our economy. The natural resources must be the fuel that drives the engine. Will the ucrb program be a contributor to the nation or a passive onlooker?

EIS should be required for impact to local communities.

1.1 billion already reduced, unacceptable to reduce it more.

Should be part of objective to manage for multiple species (fish and animals)

For any restoration plan, objectives, a forest rotation age time frame period should be identified.

Science should be based on repeatable experiments.

Form some set rules between agencies (federal, state, local) prohibit lawsuits between agencies.

Ensure people are part of biological integrity analysis.

How does northwest planning council integrate with this effort?

No mandates that would put undue hardships on individuals and communities.

Make decisions more site-specific rather than so general.

Objectives - land use output objective should be 100% or greater.

Likes the proposed action.

Continue with multipurpose until decision is made.

Forest cut should equal tree mortality.

Thinning preferred over clearcutting.

Afraid wolf issue and logging may end up like the spotted owl.

Forest supervisor should have more decision-making power.

Proposed action should reflect the public's input.

Consider potential changes to esa in planning effort.

Social/economic needs should receive an equal or higher consideration as those given to restoring biological integrity.

Make sure agendas of special interest come after objective of sustaining the ecosystem. Take a long view of sustainability.

Tourism and recreation objectives are not equal to mining, timber, ranching, etc jobs.

Maintain viable wildlife populations to avoid esa listing and extinctions. Plan ahead.

Get on managing to accomplish purpose and need by agency accountability; have a measure of accountability when one agency stops another agency from doing their job.

Get back to local control.

Maintain healthy forest - don't maintain current condition of dead overstory.

Agencies have conflicting goals and human lives are negatively affected. Lawsuits and appeals force agencies to take unrealistic actions.

Eco-management plan should be abandoned and go to forest health plan.

Use proper forest management techniques in place of fire to obtain Desired condition.

Proceed immediately to implement proposed action by July 1.

Reevaluate the appeal process. Limit appeals.

Include homo sapiens on the endangered species list. (Esa)

Give field people incentive to work in the field rather than network in the office.

Private property should not be an issue in any plan (including timbered private property).

Need to set a management plan that will create a sustainable plan with man as a component but not the only consideration.

Thinks Steve Mealey should be president in '96. Recognize and promote aggressive managers.

Riparian guidelines - too specific, will not allow site specific solutions.

Leave management to people that are educated and know how to deal with them, instead of the media and lawyers.

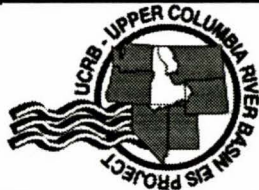
### UCRBits...

*KFAU in Boise was Idaho's first radio station and was licensed in 1922, and the first television station, KIDO in Boise, began operation in 1953. The Golden Age, Idaho's first newspaper, began publication in Lewiston in 1862*



**MISSOULA****PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS****PARTICIPANTS**

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HARLEY EVERGREEN  
JONATHAN HABER



Considering the size of the area & the various conflicting interests -- where can we get quantitative goal statements? And how will the conflicts be addressed?

Are human needs getting too much influence?

What creative ideas are being considered to maintain jobs while lessening impacts on natural processes & population?

What is really "new" about this process? Forest Service has been mandated since early 70's to do this process? What will be different this time?

Will this throw out our present Forest Plan?

Basic needs not addressed. i.e. hunting, fisheries sediment from roads effects of roads in general.

Mining Impacts vegetation diversions hydrologic changes caused by clearcuts.

Only fractions of fisheries resource occurs in upper basin; dams, fishery practices great deal outside control of Forest Service to deal with also to the oceans as well.

What is meant by human needs and desires?

Regarding economics-- How about addressing restoration jobs i.e., subsidizing - not perpetuating same problems (employment). Agencies need to be more responsible in finding employment niches.

If there is a shift for restoration there should be a substitute for timber revenues.

As mechanization occurs we need to approach jobs differently.

Mention economic benefits of restoration

What is definition of restoration?

Policy development - concerned with politics of that.

Vague Purpose and Need - gives free hand to the agencies.

Forest is not sick! A bad use of words. It will not die if we just leave it alone-- it can manage itself.

Are current conditions a result of Forest Service management? Specify fire danger, vegetation change.

Forest Service management is disrupted by appeals

Concern about the overriding emphasis on fire suppression as "the problem"

**PARTICIPANTS  
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**JUDD MOORE**

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Concern that logging will be primary tool to reach the goals stated in Purpose & Need.

Concern that not enough emphasis on human environment and the needs of people:  
jobs/community stability (especially small/rural communities)

Concern about the polarization of urban vs. Wilderness

High level of interest in this project positively influencing

Concern about the apparent prioritization of human needs last (i.e. page 9

forest health  
shrub  
riparian  
human

Almost appears as a scapegoat to simplify the problem and focus

What are data sources used to establish historic range of eco variability

Concern that this project is merely a cover to do same thing as before

Purpose and need flavor - too much human intervention more hands off thinking.

Purpose and need does not adequately address demands being placed on resources. Talk about forecast of demands address local, regional demand associated with population growth on resources.

Need to address changes in technology as it relates need on demand for resources.

Is the way private lands are being managed being considered as to the affect that management is having on public lands, management decisions?

Will or is this plan being developed in accord with NEPA and NFMA FIMA?

Does the plan address private lands?

How will this plan affect private land management?

How will water rights be affected?

Are return water flows from irrigation being evaluated?

The impression is given by the video and handouts that human social needs are secondary in importance.

Human needs were addressed.



PURPOSE AND NEED

Government (done in a hurry) Ecosystem definition what are we managing. Don't want another flawed project. This project lacking resources, personnel, study, expertise, time to complete this project so we will take strategic points - evaluate extrapolate and apply to the whole - if this is true this is flawed. Can it be defended?

Opening statement: Scientifically + social + economically sound statement.... Needs to be addressed in a major way. Be sure these are integrated - represented.

Forest Ecosystem health carbon cycling references what is scientific basis for this? Is carbon driving process? Not enough information.

Done in a hurry. General public feels like they don't have input time limitations restrictive with other commitments..

Changes on private land - park like lands. Question reinstate quantity can we - a lot of land is private that use to be this type of stand most is developed.

Human needs summary (page 9 summary) (first bullet) -- because of declining ecosystem health... What are we talking about.

Forest ecosystem health needs makes no reference to roads and their impacts... Changes caused by human development holistic look?

How is this being integrated with the private sector... Including primary land use.

Abiotic part of the ecosystem must be integrated into process - geology soils, water.

Using pre-European settlement as an indicator) how did it all evolve are we trying to achieve park-like stand. Look at several stages of development. Concern with look back as a freeze frame for what is appropriate on today's landscape may be flawed logic - things change over time naturally. Go back - prior to 100 years - What are we trying to emulate?

Aquatic (page 8 summary) limitation reference under PACFISH "bullet" what is the limitation.

In video - references - Structural storage - dams - degradation emphasis.... The whole story isn't being told - benefits? Underlying reason -- not being told to public.

High intensity fire labeled as "BAD" in video and unnatural - is that a true statement.

### UCRBits...

*Bitterroot Mountain Range extends about 435 miles along the Montana-Idaho border. Average elevation is about 9000 ft.*

## PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

### PROPOSED ACTION

Where are the guidelines for harvest rates? Road Building? Road Removal? Need more specifics on recovery of threatened populations to communities.

What level of detail will there be on individual areas?

The Fish & Wildlife resource and human component is missing in examples of objectives, standards and guidelines.

Alternatives need to be realistic and fundable.

Devoid of balance as far as human resource, #4 goal should be sustaining human social and economic needs. Biologically slanted.

Sustainability in this proposed action the same definition as the Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act?

Is core area purpose to sustain/maintain certain species and is that only use?

To what degree will the Forest Service rely on BMP's and mitigation to reconcile the quantitative qualitative problem?

Will this project result in new BMP's?

Will the range of alt's really be a range rather than differing intensities of one alternative?

What role will B.I.A. play in creating and enforcing policies?

Alternatives need to quantify - timber outputs and habitat restoration goals

Is putting roads into roadless areas going to be part of remedying ecosystem health?

Will there be increased access to timber sales for local communities rather than large out-of-state

What data has been used to establish "historic range of variability"?  
- concern about "what are we trying to return to?"

Will the plan consider the value of non-extractive refugia for aquatic and terrestrial systems?

How will you restore the health in areas that have frequent natural disturbances with a hands off reserve approach?

Objectives need to include size (acreages) so that time frames can be evaluated by the public. Obtain a sense of what the scope of actions are in a given area.

Likes the quantitative nature and defined time frame of objectives.

Objectives need to include more specifics related to T&E species.

Will and how is peer review going to happen?

Standards following objectives seem vague. Are they scientifically sound? Are they adequate?



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Has this approach to Ecosystem management ever been done anywhere --- even on a small scale?

Page II standard for restoration projects is not clear.

Biological Integrity -What does this mean? Whose viewpoint? Definitions needed - many terms

Human element? Future of man - survival needs to be addressed Is it adequate ( on page 5 - Management Direction) What should be the assigned weight bringing all factors into better balance including human Cannot go backwards -- sustainability of all factors including people

Not enough time to read and digest for comment

Needs to be goals established where we manage Fish & Wildlife species so that these species don't become TES. Don't manage by crisis

Proposed action is GOAL oriented with no REAL actions proposed -- management methods to achieve goals. Will there be public input on actual actions to be taken. Can we simultaneously evaluate the goals with a range of alternative actions to be taken?

OTHER ISSUES

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How will relocating Regional Office to Denver help this process?

How much did today's process cost?

How does what we are doing here today help planning in the future? How will this affect local ranger districts of local communities?

Use recyclable cups

How long will this process last? When can we see results?

When can we see clearly written documents?

What consideration was given to values of people living within the region versus others?

Since this EIS is so large an area, how does Army Corps of Engineers jurisdiction overlap?

How will this be coordinated with other non federal authorities? (i.e. state, county, etc)

Will there be public involvement through the process? Between now and final EIS?

How will changing management goals on public land effect adjacent private lands within ecosystem?

Concern about reality of restoration given the high level of roads with the inherent negative impacts that are associated with roads - can't restore ecosystem without eliminating roads

How and in what way will private lands within the ecosystem be addressed? (In EIS UCRB) to exclude &/or recognized species which do not stop at administrative boundaries (i.e. wolves)

How will Forest Service/BLM measure success? What are monitoring indicators?

Need more Science on the role of fire into ecosystem.

ie: Timber extraction pressures (Value)  
need for corridors for species viability

How are we going to address the issue of dams ?

Need to manage for healthy ecosystem first, then manage for supp. viability second...  
Reality=supp. will prosper if ecosystem is healthy

Heavy fuel loads - what is the intent because it is a real concern and how will or will logging be used?

Will logging accurately mimic fire? - concern that it will not need to insure science involved.

Concern about the validity and intent of this project.

Not time enough for specific comments on Purpose & need and Prop. today.  
Why wasn't this done 30 years ago the info presented &/or new and has been presented before so - why now & what is different? Or will it be different?

How will private landowners be protected from mandates on federal lands/compensated?

Concern about the continuity over time given changes in administration (political climate) funding! Ideology Ecosystem management &/or new What is the driver overall direction as it relates to management of species in UCRB (i.e. human needs, science data)... What is rel. of ESA authorization and management of species in UCRB?

Would like to see roadless areas maintained (not available for resource extraction).

The economic and ecological costs of no management needs to be considered and quantified.

By establishing a level of forest (MBF) and rangeland (AUM) prior to completion of the scientific assessment ... you are biasing the outcome.

Why are recreation baseline data not included in proposed action?

Feels the resources are public and should be available for use.

Feels the document needs to address the impact subsidies has on resources.

Having minimum production baselines for timber and range is an effective way for considering social and economic issues in proposed action

The stream and riparian objectives defines canopy closure but does not include zone of influence (width of riparian zone)(proposed action)



Are wetlands included in evaluation?

Page 16 proposed action - Guidelines 1 & 2 contradict each other. Establishing historic tree densities conflicts with maximum DBH limits of harvest.

Standard & guidelines need to consider site specific conditions or situations.

Page 17. Objectives for riparian areas. First standard does not consider candidate and sensitive species.

Needs more clarity; obvious this was written by a committee

This EIS should recommend that US Congress pass a population stabilization & reduction

What legal authority will the outcome of this have -- ex: Will this direct the evaluation of forest plans... Ex: What does this trigger legally.

Is this going to be a document that will be on-going into Perpetuity - will process change and evolve.

Question that there is a "Forest Health Crisis" as defined - and that this crises is driving EM process.

Expanding populations - public lands should not be looked to provide everything - Ability to provide commodity flow may not be there... Should not - cannot keep up with human demand.

Some specifics are in proposed action that should not be there - Page 12/13 Canopy cover first standard why so specific. Rather than to evaluate people on the ground need latitude within ranges (case by case.)

Forest Service historically not applied geology (not just mining) Geologic conditions form part of the biosphere. Non-biologic part of ecosystem needs to be part of study.

More time and more information in advance.

EIS's are completed for "a project" this is so large - what are we getting from this - we the public?

Real concerns with the conceptual origin of this type of project ... Is this from extreme viewpoints? Is it looked at from all view points ... mistrust... will all views be considered?

Get the information OUT so people can digest before a meeting to discuss....

Question That there is a "Forest Health Crisis" as defined -and that this crises is driving EM process

Do believe we need proceed with EM. Question is underlying motive.

The statement was made to use conditions as they were before Europeans came to North America as a goal. Ecosystems evolve naturally will we let evolution go on as it would naturally and if so how do we know what that will be?

## MOSCOW

### PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

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RAY POE  
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What can we expect to see implemented on the ground considering the broad scope of analysis, and having no legislated mandate for implementation?

Given that ecosystem boundaries don't recognize private ownership boundaries, how will this affect federal land management? Will impacts from private land be considered in the federal analysis?

Is community stability going to have equal consideration with wildlife, spiritual tribal interests, etc., and other concerns?

What provisions are being considered/included for monitoring - evaluation - and feedback, Present and Future?

Given the existing information gap, are we on a realistic time line for implementation?

With regards to anadromous fish: Downstream conditions must be factored in, accounted for and monitored in reference to declining populations; ie dams, off shore fishing and tribal fishing.

The scientific sources used in this analysis be peer reviewed by public, private, and academic communities to insure that the information is non-biased.

Will Logging Practices be addressed? For example is clearcutting an acceptable practice.

Will the biological affects of management activities be calculated? Particular concern expressed regarding the affects on watersheds.

Is clearcutting an acceptable practice for maintaining biological diversity.

Why don't we use natural processes to return the ecosystem to a healthy condition or at least consider this as one option. Proposed Action appears to suggest that "management activities" will be required on every acre.

It will be hard to return to natural processes with several thousand people now living within the Upper Columbia River Basin.

If this is an ecosystem management project, why aren't other affected agencies such as the Corps of Army Engineers involved?

Will mandatory monitoring processes be a part of this effort?

The reason we haven't been successful with past monitoring efforts has been the lack of clear objectives. We need clear understandable monitoring objectives for the UCRB effort.

How will private lands be incorporated in the monitoring efforts? Private and corporate owners may want to play a role.



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We need to capture the effects of the proposed action on people.

We need to think about long term economies and not just short term economic return. A healthy ecosystem means a healthy economy.

One participant said he likes the idea of ecosystem management and wishes everyone luck with what he sees as a very big and complex project.

We need to determine the costs of monitoring and the reasons we are doing it.

We need to give consideration to our traditional economies (mining, logging, grazing, etc.). They are still important even if things are changing.

Concerned about the effects of the proposal on private land.

Concerned about endangered species act and effects of species listing on private land and our economy.

Need to have core preserves.

We must have a way to implement the UCRB plan or it will be useless.

Will fundamental values of the people be expressed in terms of goals and objectives. We need goals and objectives that tell us where we are going and why. Goals and objectives must be expressed beyond the level of cookbook science.

Are there provisions for validating our assumptions about historical conditions.

We need strategic goals and objectives. We can all agree on a lot. For example, we all want clean water.

Missed issue of previous human activity -- previous overharvest as a cause of problems.

Forests will come back with management.

Waive use of fire management.

Like purpose and need.

Desire for more management (Rx fire, logging).

Concern about increase in fire without management.

Wants healthy forest not just timber -- wildlife, insects, water, other plants.

Desire for limitation and priority in E.S.A.

Concern about regeneration problems -- poor site, logging methods.

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Desire to involve other landowners -- holistic, coordinated strategy.

How far back, range of natural variability. Further back than European settlement.

Desire to use logging to stop insects.

Concern about not salvaging fire-killed.

Concern the scope is limited, too narrow. Doesn't deal with dams and other factors.

Look at bigger picture -- 95% of virgin forests are gone.

Harvest old trees to make room for younger ones. Focus on older trees.

Concern about where carbon will go when removed from site. Carbon cycle discussion too narrow.

Concern process Rx is driven by mimicking nature (management) instead of allowing natural processes to function (such as allowing fires to burn). Desire core reserve areas.

Concern we will move toward excluding "man" from the equation. Restoration will find no limits.

Concern humans will suffer if we don't protect all ecosystem.

How socially acceptable/implementable given conflicts and differing views [is this EIS].

Have to get people to accept purpose/need before moving on (therefore, is the proposed action premature).

Preparation does no good unless it can be implemented. Need strategy to deal with opposing camps/views; statement somewhere needs to address how to deal with these issues.

Sounds (from video) like fire will take all but ponderosa pine. We need diversity of products.

Video emphasized warm, dry ecosystem; did not touch on forests of northern Rocky Mountains.

Video did not touch on salmon.

Video did not touch on other exotic species planted in streams.

What are nonnative fish doing to salmon (cannery boats from foreign countries wiping out species)? Problem is in the ocean.

Little response from people around here -- University of Idaho students, Native American tribes. Was not publicized enough. Video emphasized southern Idaho. [People putting video together] could have used



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Intermountain [Research Station] in Moscow re: fire [data], etc.

One of needs statements should list impacts on water/aquatic.

Impact of salmon on Hanford [huh? don't remember what this was about].

Scientific evidence of forest health crisis is weak right now -- re: disease and insects -- what's going on now is not unprecedented.

Forest health currently is a disaster.

[Most] streams [are] accessible by roads are very over fished.

Sound science + social and economic factors should be emphasized in total equation/process.

Total EIS should address site-specific outcomes/characteristics.

Salmon mortality being caused by dams: What good will it do to increase pristine riparian area health and limited recreation, harvesting, grazing, multiple use when it's going unused.

EIS is by law broad-based. Also need site-specific analysis.

All available sound data should be used. Ex: Spotted owl data from a tribe in Washington was ignored.

Colleagues of retired Forest Service professional [member of this group] feel line management is being driven by politics/emotions. Within science community there is dissension [video suggested "science says."]

Definition of bio integrity in purpose/need: goal to attain it is good. Great goal, but you've given us no idea on how far you want to take that.

Purpose/need statement does not address/coordinate issues of other agencies. Ex: grizzly bear, wolf recovery.

How long will this new plan be etched in stone -- until the next scientist [comes along with new ideas] or what?

## UCRBits...

*Utah entered the Union on January 4, 1896, as the 45th state. Utah is named for the Ute people of the region. Its nickname is the Beehive State.*

## PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

Unfair that we haven't had a longer chance to review -- format concerns.

Like "park-like" objective for warm, dry sites.

Concern that objectives are only timber-based -- won't miss wildlife, water, plants, etc. Goals need carry over to all resources.

Concern each watershed/parts of state have localized Rx's for the area (areas, G.A.'s).

Suggestion of a flowchart of how [now?] goals, objectives, standards and guidelines.

Don't touch roadless areas. (Keep as core reserves.)

Concern about log exports; keep value added here.

Develop financial/tax incentives for private landowners.

Desire to see objectives for fire-independent applied to fire dependent (pages 8-9).

Concern that future wood, mineral, food, plant supply is considered (sustainable).

Concern -- lacking on objectives for human communication -- in riparian/aquatic [assume participant meant it's in this section of the proposed action]. Irrigation, consumption, recreate.

Have to address need for flexibility by area managers and line people; no "cookbook management" handed down from on high.

Need to recognize importance of roadless and Wilderness as core reserves:

1. For bio integrity
2. Spiritual/cultural resource
3. Baseline/control site for future management outside those reserves.

Support and expansion of Research Natural Areas for baseline ecological info.

More emphasis on foresters solving problems. Less focus on special interest of "college kids."

Concentrate on very sensitive species: humans, anadromous fish, bull trout.

Take care of whole area rather than concentrating on "wildfires" -- saving bull trout, snail darter, etc. Take care of whole; other problems will take care of themselves.

If you have a sound, scientific solution to the problem, can you implement it without interference from the fringe groups?

Suggest more research on prescribed use of fire to restore areas where fires have been excluded to a more natural condition.

There's enough research. It's the social acceptability of the tool. Smoke-air quality. People won't accept smoke/air quality degradation.

How are you going to monitor? Need measuring stick.



Need a way to demonstrate to public that scientific team did good assessment.

Forest Service: Stop road building and restore former roads to what they were before becoming roads (roads that are not being used for multi use). [Include] roads that are already closed, side roads that are not used.

Manage forest in a better way. Ex: Pay people to plant trees instead of take them. What to do about private/federal interface, i.e., loggers from private companies [who pays?].

How are you going to pay for improvements in proposed action if money isn't coming from timber [cut]?

Implementation enforcement and stringent fines, or they'll do it again.

[Participant disagreed with objectives on page 7 re:] warm/dry fire with high fire incidence and aquatic/riparian; [with objectives on page 16 re:] canopy closure. Reexamine these. Objectives too high. Make it more specific. Give better definition.

Scientific info in many cases is inadequate for the job at hand. Need more studies on basic ecologies of our various lands (forests, range).

Final decision on proposed action needs to be done at district level.

Accelerate scientific analysis of streams over prior efforts to achieve 10-year goal.

Need a way to demonstrate to public that scientific team did good assessment.

Forest Service: Stop road building and restore former roads to what they were before becoming roads (roads that are not being used for multi use). [Include] roads that are already closed, side roads that are not used.

Manage forest in a better way. Ex: Pay people to plant trees instead of take them. What to do about private/federal interface, i.e., loggers from private companies [who pays?].

How are you going to pay for improvements in proposed action if money isn't coming from timber [cut]?

Implementation enforcement and stringent fines, or they'll do it again.

[Participant disagreed with objectives on page 7 re:] warm/dry fire with high fire incidence and aquatic/riparian; [with objectives on page 16 re:] canopy closure. Reexamine these. Objectives too high. Make it more specific. Give better definition.

Scientific info in many cases is inadequate for the job at hand. Need more studies on basic ecologies of our various lands (forests, range).

Final decision on proposed action needs to be done at district level.

Accelerate scientific analysis of streams over prior efforts to achieve 10-year goal.

How to balance human demands with biological diversity (can they?).

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Scientific findings should be listed separate from human needs findings. Integrate later.

Need more prototypes (or Basin assessment sites) to better understand natural variability (i.e., need site in north Idaho, any north of Salmon River). Need sample from each of areas studied -- managed and non-managed -- to be able to build accurate proposed action.

Historic regimes do not reflect natural variability (page 5 of draft proposed action, # 2 and 3).

Ecological integrity allows for natural fluctuations (example: fire/forest diseases/insects).

Restore high risk sites state often. a)-How large/magnitude of problem. b)-How much impact would doing this have?

Why do objectives for timber and range only go down, not up? Why down 25%?

Where is monitoring? Use natural areas as reference sites for monitoring (some info available; ask for it).

Add standard to "maintain all wildlife species" under "D" - "All Forested Areas."

OTHER ISSUES

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Will there be support to implement (funding at political whims)?

Political implications -- Will this be implemented or tied up forever in appeals and litigation (will it end up in courts and court mandate)?

Get information to public early if you expect public to respond meaningfully at public meeting.

Dots should not be perceived as a voting on significance of issue.

These lists not complete.

What happens to forest until UCRB EIS comes out?

How, and to what extent has NMFS been involved?

How, and to what extent has the IF&G been involved?

How will this affect the national forests, what are we doing this for?

Will we still have project specific analysis?

Is this project going to address the dams and offshore fishing in regards to the anadromous fish problems? Are we putting large emphasis on a small part of the problem?

Are you consulting with private landowners to tell them what to do?

Are we going to mandate/require monitoring and evaluation?



PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

PARTICIPANTS

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EARL PICKETT  
MAURICE PANE  
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RICHARD MIDSTOKKE  
LYNN B. CARY  
JAMES WILSON  
RODGER COLGAN  
CAROL ADAMS

To sustain and rebuild wild game and fish populations.

Reduce the numbers of agencies involved; make one agency accountable.

Concerned about the political and legal involvement that has tied the hands of Federal agencies in practicing good land management (stewardship).

Access is not being addressed in the Purpose and Need regarding recreation and logging.

To manage public lands versus no management of public lands currently.

Strong objection to removing Salmon and Challis NF's from this video conference.

Provide good sound biological management practice commensurate with designated Purpose; ie. Wilderness vs land management.

Hidden agenda by Clinton Administration ; resent "Big Brother" attitude dictating what we should be doing.

Purpose and Need human element needs to place emphasis on creating and maintaining economic base; ie. job related such as Outfitter Guide and timber jobs.

Believe that we do need to focus on ecosystem management for all the resource areas.

Predictability of usage - what we can expect for purposes of short term and long term planning; ie. timber outputs, habitat usage, accessibility.

Once plan is established insure that implementation occurs as soon as possible. Implement the established standards; don't need more guidelines. Per Purpose and Need Summary document pg. 3, second paragraph; change the word "assist" to "direct". Follow the plan.

Address timber harvest regarding game habitat and fire suppression.

Viably use public lands for timber harvest as it relates to forest health and economic stability of communities.

Disagree with assumption that forest heath is a result of man's activities. Believe conditions today are a result of natural occurrence.

There is not a lack of fish habitat.

UCRB will blur (run together) county and state lines. State/county/ private parties need to be more involved in this project.

Appears that we're headed towards a more socialistic government.



PURPOSE AND NEED

Concerned that this plan will adversely affect private and state land management with more regulations.

Fires are a result of lack of land management (timber harvesting).

Use S.U.R.P. process for watershed analysis.

Tribal input should not take more priority than non-Indian input.

Logging is blamed for all the problems of the land.

All Upper Columbia Basin manages all sites in same manner, same principals and goals

Covered all purposes and needs

Attempt to eliminate further errors and gross mistakes

Attempt to protect the environment and resources and meet people's needs

Create sound ecological environment on wet forests

Get a lid on endangered species (how affects people and the area) and jobs and livelihood

Done in consideration of the Sovereignty of the State of Idaho

Economic impact of their actions

Expound on one size doesn't fit all - endangered species, ecosystems etc.)

Liked video

Didn't get papers in time

Foster universal cooperation in designing the objectives

Forest health is a must throughout the entire system

Use broad scope concept based on sound scientific judgment related to areas concerned

Agencies involved flexible. Be open to local public comment and be willing to change and listen if midway they find its the wrong course

Provide workable solutions for management, custodial and use of public lands

Political science eliminated and scientific research used

Public agencies have lost face--need to provide output means to reestablish trust

Indicator species should not be used on broad basis

Finish something--make sure something is completed. Keep people involved

Fire history should be important ingredient



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| PURPOSE AND NEED | <p>Need to provide renewable resources for insatiable demands--i.e. clean water, air, timber, minerals removable and recreation</p> <p>Reinvention of government--not putting RO in Utah but proposing moving it to Lewiston, Idaho</p> <p>Eliminate unfair political influences--Federal government when it goes out for input needs decisions made by local people (balance in political decisions) more weight given to local impact</p> <p>Appeal process reexamined</p> <p>Need to have fundamental changes in laws that affect the federally managed lands</p> <p>Fire salvage should be put in rehabilitation mode instead of way managed currently</p>  |
|                  | PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS  |
| PROPOSED ACTION  | <p>In reducing stocking levels to meet standards timber harvest will be used; use of fire will not be acceptable. End result matters - use harvesting to mimic fire. Air quality should dictate fire management.</p> <p>Harvesting should be used immediately after a fire to break up the crust of the hydrophobic soil caused by fire and to prevent loss of value of the product.</p> <p>What is the plan for controlling noxious weeds that already exist? Other means besides chemical spraying?</p> <p>On page 11 disagree with the the Objective for (e) Human communities should be to manage human needs.</p> <p>Implement proposed actions with the highest proven cost benefit ratio.</p> <p>ESA (Endangered Species Act) should be implemented <u>under</u> UCRB rather than over the ESA; ie. wolf/grizzly introduction.</p> <p>On page 11 first Objective for (e) Human communities - must emphasize maintenance of economic base by creating and maintaining jobs. Question direction with skills banks. Rewrite second Objective - delete: To the extent compatible with maintaining or restoring biological integrity, add: To...feet.</p> <p>Human needs proposed action seems aimed at socialism.</p> <p>On page 10 - disagree with 3rd Objective. Use of artificial means to re-establish/maintain patches/corridors for endangered species.</p> <p>There is no place for "Feel good forestry" in the UCRB project. Utilization of Best Management Practice will achieve the objectives.</p> <p>On page 9 - question 2nd standard which recommends confining any management activity to the driest part of the year; ie. nonwinter logging.</p> |

Concerned about using tax dollars for proposed actions that may not work or be needed. ie. Fish habitat where there are no fish or building campgrounds when there's no proven need for them.

Problem with implementing PACFISH and how that will affect timber harvest on federal and private lands.

Concern with U.S.F&W. and NFMS influence on the UCRB project.

UCRB should be used as a guideline. Recommend that all federal lands be given to state control/ownership.

Lack of including wilderness in management practices invalidates the entire study.

Should not manage for single species, but for entire ecosystem.

Concerned that definitions in documents can be easily misinterpreted.

Air quality should dictate fire management

Consider the State of Idaho's place in this situation and manage all actions with consideration to local needs

Congress needs to act to change laws governing Federal land this year--ESA, NEPA, Clean Water Act, appeals

Salvage programs on a timely basis

Allow control of undesirable invader species quickly

Use common sense

Riparian--who determines size of zones? How much is too much woody debris?

Take into account people who are responsible for riparian areas--leave them alone if taking good care of area

Broad local authority to Forest Supervisor with local input from time to time

Consultation be eliminated at WO and kept at local level, keep people involved

Completely restore a small watershed in 2 years

Cut the B.S.

Eliminate Pacfish--take habitat criteria for reintroduction of endangered species (ex. Grizzly bear)

Achieve higher ~ range and production

Not have action steered toward tourism--not the forced direction. Don't have it replace what resource already there

Objectives as written for warm, cool moisture forest are good in broad form, but need refinement to meet Forest needs in a ecosystem based criteria.



How will this proposed action apply to designated wilderness lands?

Who decided that we would/should return to "pre-settlement conditions"?

Need definitions for the following: What is Ecosystem Management? What does Forest Health mean? How are "highest risk" areas determined? What are ancient groves? Are they the same as old growth. What is the size and scale of the desired "Mosaic"?

Idaho County Commissioner. "When we talk ecosystem, we are by definition crossing political boundaries. Any decision on public lands will affect private lands and vice-versa. The door for counties to be involved has been closed by FACA."

Page 11 refers to assisting private land owners (skill banks). Regional control vs. local control; ie, region saying: "this is what you will produce"

True ecosystem management would have no direction/guidelines. Decisions should be made local. Specific standards should be eliminated (use guidelines instead).

Provide objectives and guidelines only. Eliminate standards!

Existing wilderness needs to be considered as part of this study.

Corridors are mentioned in the proposed action frequently. Pre-white settlement, there were no corridors

Corridors for any reason (visuals, wildlife, riparian etc) will not work if the trees are diseased.

Pages 5 & 6. Goals are too specific. Does the fact that the human component is goal number 5, mean it is lower priority? (Lots of concern about people being called the "human component")

Goal number 1. Replace "restore and maintain" with: maintain a viable ecosystem.

General comment about the entire package: "Standards may be in conflict with each other. If so, don't meet overall goal(s)."

Page 9, Objective on warm-moist fire dependent: Objectives need to take into account local habitat. There is more variability than this paper recognizes. Change 20 years to 10 years (must move quickly because of fire risk). Also, change the standard to objective or guideline. Reduce the basal area and years. Include localized habitat type information.

We have only affected 30% of area in last 60 years so how can we correct the problems in only 20 years?

Page 9. Warm moist, second objective, fire independent: consider local habitat types. Shorten years to restore highest risk. Need to use North Idaho or localized definitions for old growth. Also, eliminate the standard, keep first objective. Define ancient grove or eliminate ancient grove.

General comment: Why is fire always listed as first choice? Management emphasis should be first choice before fire.

General comment: Basal areas need a wider range to account for local conditions.

This plan doesn't account for climatic changes.

Deal with strategy, not rules/laws. (Note-I think this comment was intended to mean that some of the standards etc. are focused on current legal interpretations. Laws such as ESA are likely to be changed so this UCRB effort should be more open and less restricted)

Page 9, 3rd objective: Change "mixed severity fires occurring every 50-150 years" to 10-50 years.

Page 9, 4th objective: How does this achieve a "healthy system"? Remove this objective or modify to include harvesting.

Proposed action needs to address noxious weeds.

Page 10, objective 1 for cool, upper elevation transition forests: should also include mountain hemlock with the list of species. Also, change restoration time from 30 years to 20 years. Bring in localized habitat types.

Page 10, Guideline under objective 1; Change "may" to will be used...  
Page 3

Limit road density and limit road access after harvest activities.

Page 10, objective 2; please define the size/scale of "mosaic". Take out mosaic concept. Also, change desired interval for stand replacement fires from 100-300 years to 75-150 years.

Page 10, standard under the second objective; drop this standard and replace with the guideline under objective 1, page 10.

Page 11, (e) Human communities: Move human needs up on the scale/order. This should be the first thing considered under warm/moist forests.

Page 10, (d) all forested areas; drop this objective and standards or at least consider forest health when creating corridors. USFWS and NMFS should play a supporting role, not a dominate role.

Page 11, (e) first objective; disagree with "fostering recreation and tourism". Emphasis should be on harvesting not tourism. Use current Forest Plan visual standards. Increasing natural scenic condition not needed. Eliminate this objective- It won't work. Too heavily incorporated with laws that don't allow ecosystem management to work. This objective is already covered elsewhere, in conflict with other goals and objectives. Fear that this will become the primary objective.

True ecosystem management will eliminate the need for E.S.A.  
Include multiple use for recreation. This whole objective should be rewritten: emphasize healthy ecosystem, remove the "warm fuzzies".

Emphasizing recreation and tourism is an insult-crumbs of bread- to the local communities. The standard and guideline are insulting and condescending. (Reference to a research paper by Mecetta?; tourism and recreation must increase 28 times to make up for the loss of timber)



PROPOSED ACTION

If we go to this kind of a concept it needs to be a collaborative program. Get locals really involved, especially concerned about economics. Private sector should have heavy involvement. No "Big Brother" telling the locals what is best for them.

Page 11, 2nd objective; If we are growing more than is cut, why burn the excess? (reference to reduction in cut). This objective is double talk, contradiction of what is being said about forest health. Should increase, not decrease harvest.

Page 14, Remove all riparian standards. Should be included with forest goals, objectives, standards etc., not separate. By separating we get different teams working opposite one another = conflicting standards.

Not removing wood from riparian areas, would result in damaging entire drainages when they build up and bust.

Need to focus restoration efforts on the unstable streams first.  
Page 4

Riparian objectives (all five) should be incorporated into objectives for landtypes, one ecosystem.

Some of the unstable streams are natural.

Page 16, standard, under first objective; object to "will not be removed from site". Allow room for site specific flexibility.

Page 16, standard under second objective; change standard to a guideline to maintain flexibility.

Page 16, guideline bottom of page; disagree with 70% Where did this number come from??

In areas where riparian vegetation is lacking, we should be restoring (planting) vegetation. Can't meet this objective in 10 years. It takes two rotations to make change.

Apply the same comments (above) about the importance of the human communities to the shrub and grassland ecosystems. Also, concerned about the role of USFWS and NMFS being in a supporting role is these ecosystems.

All attendees of this meeting (mailing list enclosed) wish to be placed on mailing list for the DEIS when it is completed.

Concern about FS reinvention and movement of offices from Missoula to Ogden.

OTHER ISSUES

OTHER ISSUES

Ecosystem management is an unproven science - what's it based on definition? Where do you get a degree in ecosystem management? (If you operate on a brain you need to have a degree in neurosurgery).

Not enough emphasis on human element in UCRB project.

Impacts on changing existing ecosystems; ie. dams, people, water temperatures.

In order to recreate pre-European settlement conditions; when do we have to leave; meaning when do the people, grizzly bear, wolf and elk have to leave to recreate the pre-European conditions?

# POCATELLO

## PARTICIPANTS

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AUDREY COLE  
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AUDREY COLF  
CLARK COLLINS

## PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

Scientific based plans don't change as quickly as science discovers inaccuracies.

How can you make a long-term plan which is still science based and flexible enough to change with new discoveries, changes in needs, etc.

Have long-term climatic changes been considered in conjunction with settlement influences?

Need to make clear and help us understand the consequences of not following a science based management system. Target user groups.

Why were meetings scheduled for Salmon and Challis canceled? Looks like those folks were ruled out of the process.

Historically forest was naturally maintained by fire. Now it could be maintained by people. I don't want to see catastrophic events.

If the problem with forest is the wrong kind of trees, why don't we harvest the ones we don't want. Harvest ladder fuels.

Health of trees does not equal health of a Forest ecosystem. A big threat is habitat fragmentation caused by roads and harvest units.

The catastrophic fire scenario has been over generalized. There are a lot more diverse forest types and you can't apply the same scenario to all other types.

Why two versions of the purpose and need? Which is document of importance, which is more relevant, which should we respond to?

If this is scientifically based and we must address the human component, how are you going to rationalize the human component? Human component must be addressed at the scientific level.

What are the chance that, as we go through this process, that the politicians won't kill this? What assurance to we have?

Because Forests of southeastern Idaho are dying. Forests are old and trees are good indicators of Forest health. Forests, by being destroyed and burning up, are destroying the watershed and people's recreation areas - all other uses are impacted. Manage with people in mind and part of the scenario.

Keep politics out! Let experts and scientists to their jobs.

Main obstacle to management is the 32 cent appeal by folks who don't want anything to be done on the Forests.

Be sure scientists come from different groups. It isn't scientific without peer review.

Needs consideration of fragmentation of habitat.





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|   | <p>We need core areas and corridors.</p> <p>Need to know what contributions natural areas have made to understanding ecological processes and social processes and what contribution they will make in the future. Use them as reference points for the future/future activities.</p> <p>Human element. Opportunity to do better with analysis and display of human element. It's (human) a dynamic element with a decline in people employed in extractive resources and increasing recreation and tourism. Interested in the human transition this EIS must analyze.</p> <p>Need to look at data from social sciences. Data may not support assumptions. Wilderness often leads to increased employment.</p>  |
|   | <b>PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS</b>   |
| <b>P<br/>R<br/>O<br/>P<br/>O<br/>S<br/>E<br/>D<br/><br/>A<br/>C<br/>T<br/>I<br/>O<br/>N</b> | <p>Are time frames realistic to reach objectives (years of treatment for desired management outcomes).</p> <p>How are we going to pay for the programs required to bring the ecosystem back into a healthy state? Will funding be sustainable?</p> <p>Is there an effort to quantify (\$) loss of natural process (like salmon) versus the loss of economic return from reduced extractive activities?</p> <p>Be honest with the public when providing FS and BLM information to the public: No Hidden Agendas!</p> <p>Make sure the laws allow us to achieve the EM goals.</p> <p>Is science really driving this or is economic return the driver?</p> <p>Should we be identifying those situations we can't influence or change through management activities?</p> <p>How do we know about carbon storage or cycle in pre-settlement times?</p> <p>Too little consideration is given to win/win solutions to problems like recreation vs resources (purpose and need).</p> <p>Too many uninvolved people removed from area are making decisions when people that live in the area would make the best decisions.</p> <p>Concerned that there is an assumption that harvest mimics fire when it does not.</p> <p>Better name for Proposed Action would be Concepts for Proposed Action because scientific studies are not complete.</p> <p>Looks like prescription for intensive silviculture are like private tree farms.</p> |
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Shouldn't preface in terms of commodities as it biases scientific basis for the analysis.

We should treat the lands to improve Forest health with a combination of fire and man-made practices such as thinning and logging. We don't want to wait for nature if it's too late - too many trees are dead now.

Private tree farm doesn't have to look like trees in rows.

Proposed Action needs to address all lands including Wilderness.

Wilderness areas need to be critically reexamined as to how they fit into the ecosystem picture.

Restoration should be with the concept of the what the area was created for (legislative or social purposes etc.)

Restoration should focus on natural diversity so that we don't create a monoculture or reduce diversity.

We try to play with mother nature by thinning etc. so we need to take a hard look at how we do these things. What are the consequences?

Scope of Proposed Action needs to be clearly defined.

Proposed Action needs to address sustainability of human communities. PA does not do an adequate job of this. Methods need to show variability (social, religious, economic) within communities not just political power at the time. Consider community transition period.

Video presented problems as related to time with no mention of climate. Lewis and Clark found the forest impenetrable. Need to look at climatic cycles as an element of the study.

If Wilderness areas are suffering the same problem, then setting aside wilderness is no the answer to the problem.

OTHER ISSUES

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How will you deal with demographic changes in projecting results of management activities? ie: more recreation use.

Need more integration and cooperation between agencies and between agencies and the public.

Will Wilderness be treated in a different manner?

Will some areas be left un-managed for purposes of research?

Is tree management the best way to manage a forest? Aren't there other components beside the trees?



**REXBURG****PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS****PARTICIPANTS**

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It seems that we are concerned about too large of an area. Shouldn't we be more site specific? Too expensive.

Might be selling ourselves short - i.e. 2,000 comments recently on a planning project on Bridger Teton.

We might be a little naive thinking solving little problems will ultimately solve the big ones.

Why have another EIS level.

IS might tend to put on additional guidelines - thus changing the State of the Art Forest Plans which have had a lot of input. Developed on a ecosystem management.

Ecosystem management is politically driven?

Or is it biologically driven?

Is funding adequate for implementation?

Implementation of findings of EIS

Can't manage a resource without adequate funding and people (more efficiency)

A reality - decreasing funding and people.

On the Targhee funding for TM is practically gone.

No less people in offices

We are seeing incentive programs for experienced people being bought out. Losing good people (knowledgeable types).

Too big of a project - need to hear more from the smaller areas.

Good to have scientists involved - Too radical - maybe more site specific

25% increase of CO2 in atmosphere in the past years. Shrubs/trees/grasses grow better with this type atmosphere.

Global environment rather than man's actions effecting our earth. May not be as bad as people think. (More in minority)

Wonder if there isn't enough consideration for our mineral resources in relationship to the managing of the ecosystems.

Rules made by USFS in Challis area were too stiff. They figured the company would drop the mining and they didn't.

We need to include mining, grazing and other consumptive uses of Resources in Ecosystem Management.



Industry is not opposed to restrictions as long as they are feasible.

Include the Human Element

2% of population has been deciding how the rest of the 98% lives.

Jedediah Wilderness Area - Could be open to snowmobilers and other activities. To restrictive now.

Restriction in wilderness performing scientific tests.

We have wilderness/roadless areas - Man has been withdrawn from these areas. How will this effect these areas. How is the Ecosystem affected?

Less stressful if we had less roadless/wilderness areas managed. We have concentrated consumptive uses on other open areas.

An EIS, based on basin-wide planning is illegal and therefore cannot occur. Basin-wide planning can develop a "working paper" that can be the basis for amending each National Forest or BLM District individually, each with its own EIS. However, a basin-wide EIS cannot automatically make a blanket change for each Forest or BLM District in the Basin.

By closing out public lands - Private landowners are having to deal with recreationists on their land, e.g. people thought they had hunting license on private land. They were mad when told they couldn't hunt/fish, etc.

Don't think the problems are significant to warrant an EIS of this scale.

Yes, the problems are big enough to warrant an EIS from a biological standpoint.

98-99% of all wildlife on this earth has become extinct.

We are concerned to the point of being paranoid when man's impact may have very little effect on its extinction.

Things are bigger than man - we need to protect them.

### UCRBits...

*Nevada entered the Union on October 31, 1864, as the 36th state. The state's name is taken from the Sierra Nevada, of which Nevada is Spanish for "snow covered." Nevada is called the Silver State.*



## PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

Cool - Upper elevation transition forests.

Any EIS or document needs to address State or State Law and individual/water rights. This is not covered in the objectives. (This comment addresses entire proposed action).

Managing for individual purposes and no consideration given to a broader base.

We tend to narrow our study to environmentally endangered species and not for the entire ecosystem.

Managing for one species can effect the management of the entire ecosystem.

Page 11 - Guideline under 1st objective.

Land owners should be able to ask for assistance rather than be told how to take care of their lands.

Support idea of thinning or doing things that are gentle with the land.

We shouldn't always reduce harvest but could increase with right management.

Work smarter (Federal Government) and more efficient

Need to have a mix of large and small loggers in the industry to do the job.

Discriminatory suits (Page 14) - Incentive program - no responsibility.

Nothing being done to manage wildlife to help with the incentive program in a site specific area. There is not way to tell when they are doing a good job.

Why use fire as a tool rather than selective cuts.

Fire has more adverse effects on the environment than other management practices.

We need to utilize the resources with alternate practices rather than burn.

If we don't use fires, how do we get rid of the unproductive vegetation.

Capture the economical products of the forest.

We need to utilize all the products from the Forests, i.e., chips, slash

Don't be concerned about "historic disturbance". Use management to achieve desired results.

Forest Service has not managed properly in the past.

We need to manage for economy and people, in the present, not put so much emphasis on historical.

Need to identify what it is we are trying to reproduce.

Why does Federal Government need to come in and tell a specific locality how or what to do. Should bring in local groups to manage.

There is a need for Education - mainly in urban settings about Healthy Forests and Grasslands.

Education for everybody

We need to manage for the future.

Too many goals for this small of an area.

Human factor should be #1 priority or equal.

Decisions should be made locally for on the ground management.

Management has been influenced too much by outside groups. Past Forest Service management had been good.

Forest health is utmost importance - if Forest is healthy other factors fall in line, i.e. take care of themselves - Wildlife, H2O, Soils, etc.

Maintain a diversity in age class.

Can forest be reasonably (economically) managed by mechanical means?

Forest is renewable - we need to harvest and use it.

Forest objectives can be met by good management

Esthetics don't allow = health

Need to use fire more aggressively in sagebrush dominated areas.

Why have we created mono-cultures? i.e. crested wheat areas

Need common ground in management goals

Need to maintain historic uses, i.e. range rights, forest cuts, etc.

Incentives should be given for good land practices

What does historic mean?

Maybe historic not best - we need to apply the best management - economics people - local

Should not set aside tracts for individual use - should be more multiple use based on good science

Don't want to see establishment of core areas for single species management

We shouldn't have to adhere to the stringent requirements affecting the salmon areas. Different management for different areas (locally decided)

Don't want to see a blanket effect.



Have Federal Government pay more attention to State Water Plan - More local control

Need more public comment on land transactions.

Recognize forest has problems, past management has gotten us here.

Better communication among resource managers, scientists and public and possibility for later management decisions.

### UCRBits...

*Snake river, formerly Lewis River, is a chief tributary of the Columbia River. It rises in Yellowstone National Park from Shoshone, Lewis, and Heart lakes. The South Fork flows south, widening into Jackson Lake, from which it passes through Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Near the Idaho-Wyoming boundary it enters a long canyon in which the famous Shoshone Falls is located. It receives the North Fork in eastern Idaho and then flows west across Idaho to a point near the Oregon-Idaho line. There it turns suddenly north; for about 170 miles, it forms the boundary between those states and for more than 30 miles it forms the boundary between Idaho and Washington. It crosses into Washington at Lewiston, flows northwest, west, and southwest, and joins the Columbia near Pasco. The river is about 1038 mi long.*

## ST. MARIES

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WILL JUDGE  
CHARLES ROLAND  
DEL RUST  
J. FERRIS  
DICK M. EWAN  
GARY SIEREN  
BILL MORRIS  
RENN BODEKER  
LARRY CHAPMAN  
TOM LAY  
DEAN JOHNSON  
RICHARD FURMAN

### PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

Federal Government does not have a right to make decisions on public land since all public lands by constitution belong to the states.

Summary p. 6-7. More forest land needs to come under management from the roadless area pool of land. Less pressure on current managed lands, reduce fire fuel loading/hazard management improve health. Management opposed to preservation.

P.2 Need to acknowledge that earth was created by God. Men are to take dominion and be stewards for the best good and the increasing number of people. Needs of people should be paramount.

Agree to need for scientific research. Science end shorted because of dollars going into bureaucracy/process without results.

Is this adding fuel to the "industry", environmental industry formed around the appeal process?

Things being done - a lot of them good. Greed, power and lack of common sense in decisions affecting many people.

Because this is in NEPA process it is appealable. We are not going to be able to provide specific direction for planning due to impending delays.

P. 8 summary - Continue to develop and implement BMP's and give them a chance vs. strict preservation.

Regarding jurisdiction and administration: Regional need verses national need. Greatest weight should be regional needs, reference 10th amendment states should have more involvement.

What is biological diversity (correct). Concern about scientific community determining what the "correct" bio-diversity is.

Local economies customs and cultures vs. destroying our communities.

Avoid managing for single use on piece of land. Strive for multiple use.

I don't think fish are in decline because of forests -- it's the dams and over commercial fishing.

Issues are being proposed would cost more than people of the northwest are willing to bear for a few fish.

Include community economic stability

Seriously consider customs and cultures of society

There should be common goals in the Forest and Agricultural lands

Do not see the need to go back to pre-settlement conditions





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Responsible shared use is the answer

Government nonmanagement forests is a problem ie. not salvage harvesting enough

Man can selectively log to create pre-settlement conditions

Logging is a major tool to mimic nature or in ecosystem management.

It's humiliating to have to ask permission to be considered on equal footing as plants and animals.

Lets be as fair to people as to animals

Science will change - Let's be flexible

Local government knows better about what is needed at the local level

People are willing to work together. People and processes at the local level are in place to deal with these issues.

Agenda for this process (UCRB) is already set. This meeting will not make a difference. Science is a part but local experience needs to be a part. Pace of management change should allow us to keep up with it.

Concern that USFWS and other major players are not participating. They do as they please (ie. intro of wolves, flush dams etc.) Makes our participation seem insignificant.

There has always been changes. Problems (events) did not begin with man.

I'm afraid this is leading toward global human population control.

We would rather not have central power dictating to us -- 10th Amendment. These powers should be reserved for states and people.

PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

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Standards, guidelines and objectives are great.

P. 10 - Meeting Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plan goals should not be allowed. The people should approve standards. More local involvement.

The science can't be followed for our area (National Marine Fisheries and US Fish and Wildlife.)

Only verifiable science should be recognized. Throw out personal/hidden agenda "science"

Need to foster wise use of all resources not just recreation and tourism. (Page 11)

## Forested Ecosystem

If problems with fish were addressed at the ocean and lower Columbia River (COMMERCIAL FISHING), We wouldn't have problems in the Upper Columbia River Basin

If "restore and maintain" means to "pre-settlement" conditions -- That's too broad. What is meant by "Restore"

In my opinion, the waterways are perfect up here.

Seems exactly what Idaho Department of Lands has taken and recommends for private land owners.

If we limit operating periods, costs will go up

Human needs should come first. It looks like FISH are taking top priority.

This approach seems to be reasonable

I would be concerned if these standards are applied to state and private lands.

Federal standards sometimes trickle down to standards for private and state lands.

### Human Ecosystem:

How can we CONTRIBUTE to economies by REDUCING the timber supply. I don't understand what the document is trying to say here???

If we are harvesting 1.4 billion bd ft and are having problems with catastrophic fires and carbon cycling. We should INCREASE TIMBER HARVEST.

MAJOR GOAL of this process should be to increase harvest.

Have counties and State help manage Federal lands.

I don't understand where 1% increase in natural appearing areas came from??? Is there a 20% reduction???

Increasing visual goal of 20% is unrealistic. Visuals is in the eye of the beholder.

Timber harvest can contribute to recreation values. Logging and recreation are compatible.

We are talking about scenery management -- objective seems to be scenery management. The description in the Proposed Action is backwards.

What is "natural/scenic condition" ????

Documents are hard to understand - especially in reference to recreation.

Despite previous destructive practices the area still appears beautiful and has excellent water quality.



## OTHER ISSUES

Need to force branches of government back into their scope (constitutional limitations).

The library of information generated by this process needs to be easily accessible to all publics.

Reference-Equal Footing Doctrine-all Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands should be immediately turned over to the state for administration.

This teleconference was not well published in advance.

The ESA and other Federal "acts" (which created the NEPA process) have created an alternative form of Government. It is somewhat participatory. But heavy weighted towards "minority issue" control and Judicial implementation, which is contrary to constitutional intent. This process has usurped congressional oversight, caused budgetary priorities to change and affected significant numbers of people.

As a result of the NEPA process, the E.I.S. and alternatives process is doomed to failure and paralyzes will result. The local Forest plans, however well negotiated are not implemented due to the NEPA "process". The solution to solving the imbalance/health issues is action, i.e. work being accomplished on the ground. The NEPA process at every level - allows obstruction of many, if not all, work actions on the ground.

**UCRBits. . .**

*Early travel in Montana was by steamboat up the Missouri River as far as Fort Benton. By 1880, railroads had reached the state. Today some 2410 miles of Class I railroad track serve the state. A network of about 71,390 miles of federal, state, and local roads serves all but the most rugged areas, and 1188 miles of interstate highways link the major cities. Montana has 199 airports and 19 heliports that link isolated communities and the major transportation centers.*

## SALMON

### PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

#### PARTICIPANTS

EUGENE EDWARDS  
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JERRY HAMILTON  
MARK BONNER  
MIKE BELCHIK  
BOB LOVEK  
MIKE FOSTER  
STU LYON  
STAN CLARK  
RAY HENDERSON  
JACK JOHNSON  
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BRUCE MULKEY  
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CHARLES R. MORTON  
SCOTT TURNER  
ROBERT WIEDERRICK  
LESLIE MAY SHUMATE  
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RALPH WILSON  
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DICK HAUFF  
MEL REINGOLD

The document states an unrealistic level of knowledge of ecosystem function.

Pertaining to the definition of "health", it was questioned as to the presence of "fir trees" within a stand was indicative of poor health.

The group felt that it is unrealistic to return an ecosystem to pre-European settlement condition.

Group felt that natural phenomena has more impact to the environment than man-induced activities.

Group felt that aquatic (spawning) habitat is present in Lemhi and Custer Counties, just need the spawners to make it to lay the eggs.

The water quality of the Salmon River basin has improved within the last 50 years.

Why not eliminate the "fir" species from forest stands via logging and replanting? Need to selective log the undesirable species from such stands.

What is the evidence of loss of soil fertility within the shrub/grass community type?

What is the evidence of degradation of aquatic habitat?

What is the definition of "health"? Presence of some species (e.g. exotics) is used as an indicator, but may not necessarily be an accurate indicator.

Man's activities do not necessarily have any more effect to the environment than natural processes.

Pertaining to the harvest levels of Salmon downstream - No voice from the local community concerning the harvest levels.

How are we going to "fix" the damage to riparian areas that has occurred over hundreds of years?

Would like to see forests managed for their health while still allowing logging and grazing to occur. The last 15 years of management in our area has been good. Proper management defined as smaller, irregular shaped cuts for stand improvement, logging in bug infested areas, etc.

Would like to see on-site decisions made at the local level. These would be made at the local BLM or Forest Service office rather than at the State or Regional Offices or at Washington Office.

Would like to see more logging in shorter time frames while maintaining forest health.

Would like to see an end to the appeal process for timber sales. {The person who brought this up doesn't think outsiders should be able to appeal timber sales in our area.}





## PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

### PARTICIPANTS CONTINUED...

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CORKY TORREY  
CHARLES R. MORTON  
GARY MOSER  
PAULA MOSER  
BERT W. JEFFRIES  
PAT ULIK  
ERON COINEY  
PAUL STOKES  
FRANK J. WELLORD  
RIKKA JEFFRIES  
PATTIE BERGER  
ROGER SOLARS  
FAYE COINER  
JEWELL TRACY  
BOB JOHNSON  
LENORE WALDEL  
RAYMOND COCKRELL  
JOHN LAWSON  
LYNN HABIT  
BOB RUSSELL  
KERRIE CHENY  
JIM COMBE  
LYNN ALDERSON  
TOM RIEGER  
DALE EDWARDS  
CHARLES R. CLARK  
RAY CROWNORE  
JERRY MORPHY  
BOB DURAND  
CANDICE BURRS  
RAY INFANGER

Accept the fact that species will continue to disappear. It's a natural process that occurs over time.

Don't think this area should be managed as a National Park.

Protect the custom and culture of Americans as well as Native Americans. Native Americans should have equal opportunity and no more than any others.

Protect opportunities for motorized use across public land (including RS 2477 rights).

How can we expect the same agencies (FS and BLM) to remedy the terrible conditions that now exist when they are responsible for the condition we are in now?

Why are biodiversity and aesthetics ranked equal to economic and human needs (in the EIS)?

If the Lemhi County Land Use Plan is in effect, how does President Clinton's Executive Order override this?

Same as #9 - to have motorized opportunities and not have law enforcement personnel watching over these uses.

Shoot the wild horses!!! They compete for resources and we don't need them.

Would like to see more controlled thinning in the forests (trees and brush) to reduce the likelihood of severe fires.

Would like to see management to provide adequate feed for game animals.

Don't want to restrict recreational uses as long as those uses don't impact the game animals.

Don't want to see wildlife numbers built up to the detriment of the resources.

Management of riparian areas is difficult due to the changing weather conditions. One year it is cool and rainy, the next is hot and dry.

Where do they come up with the theory that wildfires burning out of control won't/will become large fires?

Why don't we have more salmon in the Middle Fork of the Salmon River Drainage than other areas if habitat is a problem? (The Middle Fork is within the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness Area with excellent riparian conditions. If riparian problems were the only problems, then wouldn't the salmon numbers in the Middle Fork still be high?)

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Don't think the Forest Service needs to have law enforcement officers with guns to manage the forests.

Purpose and Need of the EIS is too negative. Needs to tell what is good as well as what is bad.

Leaving a negative perception is detrimental to the current inhabitants of this area.

Must identify the impacts to and from the private lands, and use these as sideboards, to have true ecosystem management. {Impacts from management alternatives in the EIS must consider private lands and users/owners.}

Only three forest types are shown to be within this ecosystem. This is not enough to represent the variety in this area.

Must also identify the natural processes that cause species to decline.

It is false to say that recreation, hunting, and wildlife viewing are declining.

Reduced opportunities for operating ranches is not due to declining rangeland health. It is due to increases in other uses.

Decline in aquatic species is the most serious.

It is not a logical conclusion that our sustainable timber supplies are at risk because of an increased amount of burning.

It is arrogant to believe that today's Best Management Practices are perfect. In reality, it may be tomorrow's horror story.

Unclear on degree to which land not included in project (State) and how will other State and Federal actions influence decisions. Will actions be forced upon certain places (for instance Lemhi County) when it is more pertinent to a different area or due to problems in other areas.

The feeling of pre-European that we had a "perfect" ecosystem (this message portrayed on film) - this is a flawed hypothesis. There are many indications that there was not "perfect" ecosystems historically. Through evolution, these may be natural things occurring.

Terminology is not precise enough.

Forests are in bad shape". What do they mean by this? Are they all in bad shape? Where are they?

EIS is very negative. No discussion of opportunities. Does not talk about opportunities at all levels.

How do we know temperatures have increased? How do we know it is not natural?

Why is human needs aspect last? Should be functional component of Purpose and Need. Should be on top and integrated into other systems.

Language is too complicated. Very frustrating to read. Too long. Does not relate to average person.



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Land uses should be balanced between recreational and resource (ie logging, mining, grazing) uses.

Perception was that too much emphasis was placed on recreation.

There has been a general failure by the agencies to educate the public on changing demands on resources (timber, etc.), and the importance of natural resources to people everywhere.

The drought has not been taken into account when documenting reasons for ecological problems.

The human needs section was under emphasized, and should have been more prominent in the document.

Harvesting after a fire the same to the land as harvesting then burning. Ecologically, there's no difference.

The economic impacts to society were not addressed enough.

Fees charged to woodcutters are contrary to goal of removing downed fuel.

Need to use select cutting as a means to improve forest health.

There are serious doubts as to whether this EIS will actually accomplish anything on the ground. Seen as just another paperwork exercise and a waste of money.

Scope may be too big to make meaningful conclusions about ecosystem health. We should let go of "lost cause" endangered species; cost of saving them is too high.

A custodial type drainage by drainage management should be looked at where one person is responsible for the health of a drainage, and stays there for a long time. We are now asking too much of each drainage.

The purpose and need did not focus on positive aspects of human activities (such as troughs, increased herbivore habitat from logging, mining reclamation, etc.).

EIS did not address affect of predators on endangered fish (otters, blue herons, bull trout, etc.).

There is a concern that the agencies don't really have the knowledge or ability to adequately analyze the 45 million acres in the EIS area.

The change in management is not necessary due to improving conditions and recent management changes and the cooperation of the local users and communities.

Purpose and Need is totally missing the point as to the source of the problems we have. The point is: There are too many people wanting to use the resources. Those who have the most voice (urban areas) will out shout the minority (rural areas).

Make sure the scientific efforts underway get their input into the document so there is no basis for litigation based on unscientific objectives and reasoning.

What is the role of "historical variability" in defining what really should be on the ground now? How does the state of the resources 200 years ago reflect climate, wildlife use, etc.? Are we going to be forced to make the land look like it did then, and do we necessarily want to go back there? If so, at what economic cost?

#### PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

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Better definition of "Biological Integrity" (definition of Health)

The statement is too technical for the common public. Need to explain the statement in more simpler terms.

Need to mention the use of site specific objectives in planning. Use of common sense in planning.

What would happen if nothing was done? {No EIS, no changes in management}.

If science is included in ecosystem management, explain how disturbance to salmon habitat is good.

How are resource (ranching) industries going to be represented on advisory councils, i.e. equal to environmental groups?

Representation of advisory councils, etc. should be proportionate to individuals or groups impacted.

Would like to see wildlife and resources managed for resource gain and reduced / minimized predation.

Document is specific overlord management instead of general guidelines for good local management.

Is it bad if Lemhi and Custer Counties haven't changed in the last 30 years?

Human Use is the Ultimate Priority (above other species).

Identify and eliminate hidden agendas, i.e., 20% more wilderness.

Forest service already doing a "let burn" policy in many places, no need for change.

Underbrush and downed fuel important forage and structure for wildlife; not always bad.

Logging during warmest driest season impractical.

Need to use outside information sources. There is a perception that the EIS is only using its own sources of info, thus biasing its point of view.

"Science based" is too unreliable. Scientists often have differing interpretations of the same data. The science team should use local practical experience in addition to scientific data. (Proposed action)



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Page 11, 2nd Objective: should be tossed. Limiting timber volume, range, fish, etc., is an output of alternative. Very dangerous where it was put. Indicates sure deduction.

Fire issue - policy has brought us to this point. There are other ways.

Result of Proposed Actions should develop an economic basis for decisions. Study can and should be self-sustaining, not a tax burden, so we do not have to keep supporting system.

Recreation and tourism - brings in disease with mass of people.

Density management of timber stands - basil area - TOSS! Does not relate to density.

Human needs must be met first or at least given equal consideration to those of natural values and animal species.

The document must consider drought and other natural climactic changes on current conditions.

One size does not fit all.

Who's science will be used? There are lots of different opinions from different biologists. How will you keep these varying opinions from affecting the implementation and potential for litigation?

Will the EIS leave room for change if the Endangered Species Act changes?

Will this also govern private lands?

Make sure the study includes a review of the custom and culture of the local areas and doesn't lump all regions into the same pot. No one unfamiliar with the area should be making any decisions affecting it.

OTHER ISSUES

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How is this management plan going to protect private property rights?

Am very concerned that environmental groups will have a disproportionate say in management decisions.

Will this plan consider humans as equal to other species? Humans are part of the ecosystem.

The Upper Columbia River Ecosystem has been heavily managed for decades. Why should anyone believe this program will improve conditions?

How much has been spent on this study to date? How much will be spent to complete? Ecosystem management is a poorly defined concept.

How are economic studies on impacts to local communities going to be conducted? Lemhi County has a custom and culture study in place. Will this study be respected?

Your video was completely unbalanced in favor of recreation . . Does this program mean the end to "Multiple Use"?

Are we going to log areas that are in poor health as far as fire hazard or overgrowth?

Riparian areas how about high water washing away banks and vegetation.

How come special interest groups, Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth, Why they have so much say so as to what we here in Idaho can do or don't do. Need local input.

Look at humans as part of the ecosystem and their livelihood.

Very good multiple use for our forest (Salmon and Challis National Forests).

Irrigation withdrawal has profound affects on streams/fish. Need to find better ways to make things work for irrigators and fish. Need to recognize the impacts.

Recognize need to work with local people on private lands to make things work better. Give and take with everyone.

Increasing human population impacts

Sustainable yield should not be on a yearly basis, but long term, when need is there.

How does mining fit into this process?

Definition of "future forest conditions".

Is the science and data going to change over time making the views portrayed in this document and any subsequent regulations invalid?

Make sure that any economic burden imposed by regulations resulting from the EIS are imposed upon the nation as a whole and all the owners of the public land.

Who has the most clout in getting input to this document and future management, local users and managers or special interest groups?

How will you guarantee implementation of this tremendous effort?

Will this effort get the special interest groups off the local communities backs?

How will the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service be involved?

Make sure that local knowledge and on-the-ground managers have the ability and authority to refine any Standards and Guidelines to fit the local environment.

There needs to be a glossary of terms to make sure everyone from judge to local users understands and agrees upon the definitions used.

How will this plan affect current management plans and regulations on what we are able to do toward implementing its recommendations. What will the effect of litigation be on the ability to implement it?

Will this program (the EIS) take time and money away from such items as timber sales, aquatic habitat restoration, grazing permit allocations or any other local activities underway right now? (Will the funding needs of the project formulation or implementation keep the local offices from doing the other stuff that needs to be done?)



**SANDPOINT****PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS****PARTICIPANTS**

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Maintain availability of site-specific prescriptions

Needs of rural community need to be emphasized

Allocating user fee and how we apportion fees back to the resource

Cost/benefit outputs for any activity

Questions on baseline/historical information, valid? Not explained, based on what?

Sounds good

Didn't understand all verbage, terminology

Didn't even mention old mining problems, reclamation

Most emphasis on pine

More emphasis on human needs

Regulation on development of private lands

What economic diversity made available to people that desire to continue to work in forest

Main focus on resource management rather than habitat management

Consult with state agencies for resource and habitat management

Interagency approach, integrated approach

Recreational fishing and commercial fishing not addressed

Happy to see biological integrity as a starting point

Most concerned about controlling large fires 50-100 thousand acres

Too much material to cover, too large scale

Dilute the effect lobbyists have on Congress--give the decisions back to the land managers

Try to use fire more as a management tool

Because landbase is so large, this will only offer broad concepts--will still need local decision making. Don't be overly specific

How to bring about a healthy landscape that meets the need of the people, especially local folks

Responsibilities and relationships to non-federal lands including protection of private property rights

**PARTICIPANTS  
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MARK ELIOT  
ROBERT FRIES  
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Purpose and Need should reemphasize multiple use in all aspects, especially access to public lands

Purpose and Need accurately assesses forest health (end result but not necessarily the causes)

Too broad, to big subject, outsiders influencing decisions

Purpose and Need should emphasize the demand portion of the equation (human needs section).

Purpose and Need accurately assesses Forest health (end result, but not necessarily the causes)

Purpose and Need self-evident, execution will be difficult

Process will boil down to personal responsibility in all aspects

Purpose and Need should break apart gridlock created by ESA and appeal process

Good that Purpose and Need covers issues beyond the local (eg, the range to the south)

How is the Canadian portion of the basin being considered?

Concern that overlap and conflict in legal mandates is inadequately addressed (FACA/NFMA/NEPA/ESA/CWA/LLPMA)

Thought Purpose and Need did a good job of focusing on Forest

Health as Key Issues driving ecosystem health and human needs

Purpose and Need does not address interdepartmental/agency/private landowners cooperation/coordination

Concerned that too much emphasis is placed on spiritual needs

Impressed with Purpose and Need, felt it covered the problems

Are we dealing with science or art?

How are wilderness areas addressed or considered in process?

Impressed with Forest Health evaluation in Purpose and Need

Make sure that white pine blister rust is addressed in regard to white pine and whitebark pine

Too much emphasis on human influence and too little emphasis on natural process

Does not include people other than Native American Indians in regard to anadromous fish



PURPOSE

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Needs to be more emphasis on spiritual experiences and less on commercial opportunities

Cannot have a scientific study while mixing spiritual needs with art and science

Private rights should predominate

Not enough emphasis on multiple use

Overall plan should allow site-specific determination

We should use historic data for background baseline

We need to be honest with people about trade-offs for obtaining a healthy ecosystem:  
Smoke and short-term local degradation

Social and economic impacts of any plan must be top priority

Why did we stop control burning? Fire seems to be the common denominator

Ecosystems are not defined-not in a scientifically valid way

Ecosystems do not stop at agency and/or ownership boundaries

People need to be top priority

All actions on all lands are interconnected

Good management enhances all uses

Due to constraints on federal land, private lands are being hit hard (overharvested)

Concepts should be based on smaller drainages

Plans should include local hydro drainages

PROPOSED ACTION

PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

Specific target dates for specific actions-don't study to death

Authority at local level to make changes as they see needed

Federal property tax, based on amount of federal land in county, as opposed to timber revenue sharing

Define wetlands realistically

Users of all resources need to pay; not just county-timber and recreationists need to pay their share

How will finding be done for management of forest?

Now and long-term?

Complete utilization of forest products (ie, chipping fire damaged trees), no waste and less unnecessary smoke

Utilize grasslands more effectively by grazing properly.

Site-specific consideration for candidate and sensitive species and manage accordingly

No opening up old mine dumps to create new problems (road building)

Use of fire as management tool

All actions must be flexible in time--site-specific

Scientist need to be more specific. Less "ifs", less hypothesis, more facts

Public involvement in final decision process

More emphasis on selective harvests, proper forest management

Log closer to growth potential of forest

Economic incentives for experimental techniques to effect change

Consider social impacts, local govt, schools, child abuse, drug abuse

If feds can't manage lands then states should manage and own

How funding this UCRB EIS? Needs to be defined and stated so people understand

Emphasis on protection of riparian areas, all components, stay out of these.

May have to restrict other uses, recreation, camping

Sewers on wetlands-no impacts on wetlands,

Educate public better-not just here, but everywhere across the nation (New York)

Provide EIS on all activities, including road closure. Some roads don't need to be closed, but are closed anyway

Enforce road closures better if need to be closed

Better law enforcement

Guard against locking people out of federal land

Need to consider fire hazard concerns, watershed and timber harvest opportunities before closing roads

Needs to include the impacts to humans and their economy

Provide for citizen access to the decision-making process for federal actions

Favor eliminating noxious weeds and using fire for natural management. Reestablish native species

Recognize unroaded and wilderness areas are key components of the state's recreational economy



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Put common sense back into managing wilderness areas

Large natural preserves need to be established and connected by natural waterways and road removal

Strategy needed for established mines/sites in order to prevent environmental damage

EIS needs to address the increased population adjacent to public lands

Balance will be difficult to define but should be based on not using resource faster than it can be replaced. Factor in population

Look for alternatives to burning especially use of smaller diameter trees, understory, etc, diseased timber.

Combine timber sales with watershed restoration

Pre-settlement is being overemphasized

Proposed Action should consider human needs over native species needs. This should be an alternative

Question: is the cattle grazing the best use of our lands?

Accountability in public info-sharing. Historical problems due to poor communication in past.

Can look at pre-settlement, we can try to manage forest, but we will never be there

I don't want to be a hunter/gather-let's manage from here forward-use a balanced plan-recreation, timber, multiple use

Experience as basis and tool for future-must learn from those locals who know

EIS reflect harvest statistics-specific harvest levels

More specific info

Cattle are an introduced species, should manage for native species-This is just an example. We should consider nonnative, but native species should be considered first

How has our human emphasis-exploitation of resources brought us to where we are today

Terms need to be clearly defined

Proposed Action should maintain flexibility for local people on ground. Locals need oversight

What year, area, etc. Did they use to derive 1.1 billion BF figure?

What portion of nation's timber market is the UCRB (or any resource)?

Don't like the proposed action coming before scoping-seems to negate point of public input

Not following normal NEPA process

There is no reason for below cost sales-harvest can pay to improve forest health

Federal lands must be managed at the highest standard-no slash and trash loggers on federal lands

Federal land managers should be hands on experts, not book types

There may be conflicts between people and biological corridors. There is no info on how these will be reconciled

Prescription for general forest types are too specific. Prescriptions need to be developed by silviculturist

What effects will riparian restoration have on timber harvest?

Concern that about assumption that fostering tourism? Recreation will improve ecology of the area

Concern about economic practicality

Concern with fuel loadings in riparian areas

Concern that short restoration time periods are too short. They will not mesh with other resource objectives

Maintenance and improvement of scenic condition conflicts with Forest Health and fire prevention

What does 25% of current harvest mean (what is current?). If 25% less than 1994 level, this is too low

It did a good job of recognizing different forest communities

Need better/more complete discussion of ecosystem biologic integrity

Do biologic corridors foster proper forest management or do they interfere?

Social and economic values should be considered a priority in any proposed action

Need to harvest diseased and insect infested trees to decrease wildfire potential

Consolidation of federal land management agencies would increase efficiencies, base management units on ecosystems

T&E species protection is being used to hinder best management. It should not be



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Information must be truthful and unbiased

Clearcuts should be considered a management option

Common sense should also be considered

T&E species protection should not be driving force

Information should be truthful and unbiased

Need a fire use program which uses both prescribed and natural fire to restore ecosystem health

We need a good forest management program (ie, New Zealand)

OTHER ISSUES

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Mining not addressed, historical dumps not addressed, need to consult Idaho

Geological survey. Don't need to do research, has been done

General practices guidelines for state and feds

Total public involvement in entire process of Fed land management

Address dollar flows, economic considerations, dollar impact, address alternatives

Address employment, tourism isn't economic substitute for communities

Address how the people of these states continue to support entire infrastructure when feds own (66%) of land

Reapportion funds for roads based on use. Not reapportioned to northwest, not back to community where collected

Strengthen local laws on management of private forest lands

Incentives to manage all land for natural resource rather than conversion to other resource (ie, shopping mall, farm land, or farm land to timber land)

Too much govt control, now less govt laws

Demographic voting areas-local decisions, including public

In FEIS, eliminate resource extraction vs recreation/ecosystem management conflict

Federal agencies need to provide fair share of timber products. To have a balance between Fed and private lands to provide for biological integrity

Stop export of raw logs to reduce impact to jobs and help balance the harvesting between public and private lands

Feds need to react quicker to identified problems

More responsive to forest health to recover resources so they won't go to waste

Recognize the need for natural processes while seeking forest products

Adjust our expectations for the amount of resources that we can extract from the various ecosystems

Concerned Douglas-fir is being discriminated against

No forest roads be opened or closed without public input on each and every road

Increase law enforcement monies to both protect T&E species and allow public access to Fed. lands

Concern that human needs have been minimized

NEPA and appeals must be changed

ESA should be re-worked, especially "without regard to cost"-human costs need to be figured in

Stay flexible, don't stop learning. Be ready to accommodate changed conditions

Plan has to be interactive

Don't study it to death, implement, and change if necessary

Let professional foresters manage

Too much gridlock. Even today's ideas will not be done due to red tape

Address overlapping of agencies (EPA, DEQ, FS, BLM)

Customer service is poor-each department simply sends you to the next or offers same old answer

Redo OSHA, eliminate

Recognize fed land decisions affect private land management/harvest (lack of fed cutting is contributing to private logging)

Glad to see up-front public involvement

Will this interaction do something, or has today been to soothe the public?

Reevaluate assumption that public wants change on fed lands- especially trend towards increased recreation on National Forest lands



OTHER ISSUES

Please do local surveys

Get information to participants sooner for more review time

Localize the process at Ranger District

Once plan is developed and Forest Plans revised, bureaucrats need to be accountable for resource output levels

Need issue regarding maintenance of vehicle access to Forest

Concerned that concept presented strays from working Forest concept toward National Park status

Concern that insufficient personnel or financial resources are available to implement the plan

Concern that resource production and quality of life are presented on opposite sides of the spectrum

There is a concern about arbitrary administrative boundaries conflicting with resource needs

Forest health goals are not obtainable if riparian area guidelines are followed

Need to recognize that what exists now is not unaffected by man

Forest Service take a more active role in recycling

Frivolous timber sales appeals have hampered fed. agencies' ability to manage forests-the process needs to be reevaluated. Some sort of a "go- no go" process should be considered

Fed agencies should enforce and obey the laws

All segments of the social/economic spectrum must be considered in proportion to their percentage of population

Enhance big-game winter range with controlled burns and clearcuts

Control of lands should be local

Need "field tested" land managers

Need continuous educational program which considers pros and cons of ecosystem management

Some laws will need to be changed or eliminated in order to implement plan

Funding of agencies/projects should have local involvement

Local users should pay for management of public lands.

PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

PARTICIPANTS

DAVE McFARLAND  
MARTY EVANS  
DAVE RICHMOND  
KATHY RICHMOND  
KEITH AXLINE  
PAUL RIES  
MERRI NEIWERT  
RAY NEIWERT  
STEVE LIPUS  
JOE GRIFFIN  
DAVE KIMPTON  
CATHY BAENT  
ED CANNADY  
PAT BRECKEN  
HELEN MALONE  
GARY GADWA  
CAROLYN HUBBLE

What era of forest vegetation history do the agencies plan to "return" to?

We need a definition of ecological health and we need to come to an agreement on that definition so all know what we are talking about.

What are the barriers and opportunities to get to ecological health?

We need a glossary of terms and concepts such as ecological health, corridors, etc. to understand the document. Most people don't know or understand biological terms and concepts. Don't assume we know what the technical terms mean.

The purpose and need focuses on what's bad or wrong (negative tone). Should also point out what is currently working and the positive things going on.

Page 15 only mentions candidate and sensitive species. What about threatened and endangered species?

Need to more clearly define the scope and boundary of what will and will not be considered for the area of the proposed action. Will dams, private land, county land, state land be considered at all?

Need a cumulative effects analysis over the entire Columbia River system integrating the Eastside EIS and FEMAT.

What does this process accomplish that existing agency regulations do not?

People need to be moved up a couple of places and considered more important in ecosystems. Socioeconomic impacts should be given equal consideration.

PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

What are the baseline standards that indicate accomplishment of ecological health? When will we know we have reached it?

All proposed actions need to be measurable. For example: What % slope = moderate standard?

All agencies should use same criteria in their standards.

Need to discuss fire and its effects and the affects of fire suppression.

Let wildfires go unless they are affecting property or people.

In unhealthy ecosystems, suppress wildfires.





PROPOSED ACTION

The most effort needs to be put where the biggest problems are, i.e. salmon/dams.

How will this analysis result in actions on the ground?

Where will money come from? Will we have funds to implement actions?

Suggest forming nonagency advisory boards to review and interact on agency decisions at local level.

Goals appear to have corridors as the prime focus. This narrows the options to achieve solutions.

We need details discussed of the methods to reach goals. How will it be done? For example no roads in roadless areas, replanting. What does "restore" mean?

OTHER ISSUES

OTHER ISSUES

Do we plan to eliminate vegetation and wildlife that has been introduced post-European settlement?

Need to include private land as part of the ecosystem. Actions taken on federal land affect private positively and negatively.

State and county lands should be considered in all actions.

Dams are a major affect on this ecosystem.

Untimely distribution of handouts for review caused inability to evaluate and comment adequately at this meeting.

Concepts need to be clearer and more easily understood by general public. We need a simpler summary. Concepts are not explained adequately to public i.e. fire management strategies, ecosystem management strategies, what is meant by corridors.

Concerned that this is just one more study. Will we spend all or time and money on study and not on the ground?

Will there be more regulations and will the current good ones be ignored?

Need to address natural processes and change, i.e. earthquakes, volcanoes, drought.

PACFISH should not replace existing rules and regulations that have proven effective in achieving goals.

## TWIN FALLS

### PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

#### PARTICIPANTS

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DAVE PARRISH  
LYNN FOSTED  
HERB MALANY  
JOHN P. HILL  
GERALD TEWS  
MARLA GRISWALD  
DON GRISWALD  
JAY WILSON  
JOHN HAXBY  
CHARLIE HILL  
MEL QUALE  
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STANLEY LEHMANN  
LYLE WOODBURY  
ORRIETTE SINCLAIR  
MIKE POULTON  
KATHY POULTON  
K LYNN BENNET

How will mining issues be addressed in this effort?

Re: water quality with runoff and injection wells

How does UCRB EIS address boundary issues?

Both EIS and State Boundaries and Tribal and local

Is it right to take this political approach at the cost of other on-the-ground work as far as funding goes?

We need a priority on this planet (people) and manage the ecosystem for that priority.

Is this a political approach or a "grass roots" approach?

Where is the funding coming from. Does this impact other efforts?

Where is the data to show the negative impacts identified?

Does this imply the entire area is in poor shape or just selected areas?

Is this effort being done with a hidden agenda and the science is being used to justify that agenda.

Need to address allocation of land for purpose of industry or other uses away from range and forests (with informing groups)

Concern that this is "done deal", fast track and already been decided.

Decision makers are "insulated" and don't have vested interest in situation.

Not addressing range or natural variability—such as effects of drought, weather, climatic changes.

What is "ecosystem"—needs to have a clear, precise definition.

Problem with "reinventing" purpose, where is multiple use in EIS documents

Why spend more money to find more problems?

Are humans considered part of ecosystem—needs clarification. What weight do the socioeconomic factors have in the scheme.

Question political views of individuals in charge of EIS.

What authority does FS and BLM have to do this without going through Congress?

No guarantee that scientific research is on target. Also use other information, balance from everyone-broader input (including local people).

Don't disregard local input.





PURPOSE AND NEED

Need for Fed. agencies and local people to have proven scientific data and use it (and get away from predetermined agendas)

Follow the science, get rid of those people (agency people) who have agendas.

Need to have mutual respect among scientists, agencies, public, etc., including the land and resources.

Need to reject extremism—use common sense.

People have to be considered in process—are also a part of ecosystem=equal weight.

Intensively manage through multiple-use.

Take local needs and concerns into account (will create diversity over broad picture); include locals in all planning process. Also honor local custom and culture.

Use ecological processes rather than ecological elements.

Don't hurry through process; take the time needed

Take the time needed, but don't stall—drag our feet. Make it an adaptive process.

Turn management of public land over to private industry.

Should have regional Federal judges to make decisions; not some distant judge

A concern that (EIS) is so big—we are moving away from local control and input

Don't allow this process to open the door for more Federal regulatory control over state and local control.

Is the EIS needed?

How does the East Side EIS affect or play into Upper Columbia Basin EIS?

How far down is this process going to effect—AMP's??

Need local management of many micro systems—within square mile radius (local areas)

What is the cost, where is the money coming from??

Make #5 goal on page 6 the most important, then other goals fall into perspective

Can the Salmon be brought back considering current realities (fishing demands, dams, etc.)?

If salmon not brought back, how long are we (people) going to last?

Goal to change federal fire policies and timber harvest

Pre-European ecosystems should not be our goals—should concentrate on what we know now and build on it.

## PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

### PROPOSED ACTION

Recognize that environmental theories and emotional approach with rejection of multiple use has brought us to present crisis (i.e. endangered species act, layers of conflicting rules that effectively bar constructive management)

Reduce regulatory redtape, agency management problems, so actual management can happen or agencies can do their work.

Use local agency people to manage locally.

Minimize regulations, use experts as needed.

Recognize drought and wet cycles and not be punished for it. And also recognize the resiliency of mother nature.

Emphasis on people! Page 14 move e to a. Make 5 goal on page 6 most important.

Involve local people in the process.

Do not study this thing to death.

Revisit 1964 Wilderness Act—is an intellectual train wreck.

This project should not supersede previous research and proven programs (i.e. don't reinvent the wheel)

Riparian should not be the tail which wags the dog—should look at it in it equal place and uses (ie. recreation, grazing, logging will fit into wise use management.)

Emphasize resource use; economics is important as far as people concern

Wise use of minerals—if can be used for beneficial use—harvest

Consider private land in equation—(ie water quality and management in general).  
Need of cooperation between private sector and government

Avoid propaganda on part of supposedly neutral agencies.

Recognize that public, this group wants action

Don't want/or need this EIS planning effort.

People who work w/ land management agencies are equals in planning, knowledge, respect—problem solving. Without private people regulatory agencies would not be needed.

Look at all effects to Salmon runs like predators, fishermen.

Salmon population—restoration may not be possible.

Indecision/wrong decisions lead to inaction or wrong action on part of agency.

No guarantee that decisions regarding resources are right.



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Do it all at local level.

Education needs to be part of proposed action. Need advisory committees on local level and must have power. Will get different perspectives-need balance of representation.

Concern regarding open and parklike condition of Forest—is this really healthy?

What ever replaces PACFISH must be more site-specific.

Where do you draw the line when protection of an endangered species threatens socioeconomic welfare? Thousands of jobs and lively-hoods.

Broad/imprecise proposed actions need to be implementable (do-able)-need to be able to apply.

Need a wider group of people (such as land grant university) to prepare the document.

Each individual state, local, tribal government need to craft proposed actions.

Does not consider the potential of the land to the degree that it should (as written)

Diversify it for individual practices (i.e. farmers, fishermen, tribes, local), not be so specific and have such broad application. Need decisions locally.

Based on premise that natural is better. Should consider full spectrum of diversity not just the Potential Natural Vegetative Community.

Need to reevaluate existing data to determine what & where and if there is a problem.

Cater the information to the users (need for local understanding).

Proposed action is a hidden agenda to eliminate uses from public lands.

Delegate resource management responsibilities to state and local level.

**OTHER ISSUES**

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Forest Service/BLM, etc. Does not always take into consideration the view of other agencies like the fish and game—and vice versa.

How do important documents not get out on time to prevent injunctions? Don't start something else.

How do we get endangered species on list on time?

How do we get endangered species off the list when the numbers are adequate?

How is the classification of riparian areas determined?

Huge waste of money to fence streams that are not necessarily important ecologically?

Need to have a lot more studies of riparian areas—on the local level. Learning on the local level too.

How do you control noxious weeds in riparian exclosures?

Assess economic impacts at community levels.

Aquaculture and farming as it relates to water quality.

Private property rights that may be affected by this exercise.

BLM/USFS should follow existing Fed. mandates and manage their own lands as required under law.

Whole need for exercise should be reviewed. "Need" as written/presented is questionable/suspect.

The entire interests of land users need to be addressed as they apply to the ecosystem.

Will this document be used to modify or change existing standards of water quality? By the Federal EPA

### UCRBits...

*Utah, with an area of 84,904 sq mi, is the 13th largest state in the U.S.; 60% of the land area is owned by the federal government. The state is in the shape of a rectangle lacking its upper right-hand corner; its extreme dimensions are about 345 mi from north to south and about 275 mi from east to west. Elevations range from 2000 ft along Beaverdam Creek in the extreme southwest to 13,528 ft atop Kings Peak in the Uinta Mountains of the northeast. The approximate mean elevation is 6100 ft.*



## PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS

## PARTICIPANTS

DAN ROBISON  
 PAT MOSER  
 RANDOLPH WICKERS  
 JOHN AARM  
 PHYLLIS ALLEN  
 PHILIP ALLEN  
 JACKIE MCCLURE  
 RICHARD BLOOM  
 BILL HOWARD  
 JOSEPH HORVATH  
 JOHN E. BARRY  
 LOREN HUGHES  
 SAMANTHA MACE  
 RIC BAILEY  
 JACK BARRY  
 KEVIN SCRIBNER  
 MARK SIMMONS  
 BECKY KRAMER

Stated that we have a problem—identify better than present, and identify the causes. Ecosystem is in pretty poor shape and that it is the problem.

One size doesn't fit all, recognizing that we are looking at broad/mid scale. Comprehensive/complexity of issues.

In ecosystem management approach, the social and economic needs should be given equal consideration as biological needs.

Level of detail seems premature prior to completion of the Scientific Assessment

Vital to include three items:

- 1) Integrating ecological relationships,
- 2) Social values,
- 3) economic relationships.

Pacfish too specific-constraining; won't be able to meet purpose and need (page 3).

Need recognition of need to adapt management over time (adaptive management).

Concern that the integration of the three items identified on page 3 (see issue #5 above) be equal in weight.

Be more specific of how timber harvest aspects contribute to the problem and how timber harvest has contributed to forest health.

Sounds terminal. Emphasize enhancement, equal balance to the things that are positive, maybe even contrast with what is occurring on other lands.

Didn't hear anything about laws that are currently preventing enhancement activities to occur. The system seems to be broken with everything being resolved in the court system.

How do you propose to manage exotics in shrublands?

Exotic fish and mammal species causing impacts.

On page 11, the first paragraph should say "in absence of low intensity ground fires".



## PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS

### PROPOSED ACTION

Federal lands cannot resolve all problems, particularly anadromous fish problems.

Potential for catastrophic fire needs to be reduced by active adaptive management, including silvicultural practices in combination with prescribed burning.

Legislative support to allow scientists and management to actively manage lands without threat of management with/in court action. Courts do not know how to manage forests. Need to manage now—not 50 years from now.

Proposed Action should always avoid mandating any sale quantities; it would be counter-productive.

On page 5, needs to be a goal of resource extraction program. Definite goal “facing rural dependent...” we are resource providers, not dependent; this is based on need of the nation. Public lands provide for the nation, not just Elgin, La Grande, etc.

Patches/Corridors for wildlife be managed and not be treated as set aside.

Analyze national need for wood for the area included in the EIS.

How does UCRB fit into the global picture for extracted resources?

Sounds like social/economic factors have low value. People seem to have a “perfect state” in mind. Will need to compromise and balance social/economic/ecological aspects.

Concerning biological integrity on page 1 — values and needs of society seem to be put secondary to biological needs. Need to restore integrity of social and economic side. Need to use a different term.

Technology transfer of Science and Management and Applied Management needs to be speeded up.

Should take into account that ecosystems are dynamic and change. Active management may be necessary within the desired limits.

In warm, dry forests, how do you decide which trees to grow; what about shrubs, etc. that grow there? Is this being done for timber management? Even-age is not ecosystem management—why only certain types of trees. Sounds like they are gearing the forest for timber production. The focus is not taking other things into account. It’s a waste of time and just talking politics.

Need to distinguish between “set aside” (i.e. National Parks, Wilderness areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers) and other lands that should be managed under multiple use management.

On page 5, the Ecosystem management approach should be driven by clearly identified and achievable goals.

Aquatic Ecosystems - concerns are valid. The solution we take should be a flexible management approach. Clearly, not the approach taken in PACFISH.

Economic feasibility should be woven throughout the planning process.



## OTHER ISSUES

### OTHER ISSUES

What weight in final outcome will this type of involvement have? All the stated goals already seem to have a bias, what weight will our voice have?

What is the difference between social and economic values? Do social values include economic values (Rural America is a "culture" that needs to continue)?

Will an alternative for the EIS prepared by citizen or other groups be fully analyzed? Will there also be a recommendation?

State and federal lands - can timber be exported? Or is timber only allowed to be exported from private lands?

Why was this technique, which is very detailed and programmatic, used? It is very different from the Eastside EIS process. It seems premature to the Scientific Assessment.

Concern that money goes to Science—that people in other areas (i.e. back east) are asked what they think about how to manage lands here. We have the knowledge and resources to do the management job well, right here; use them.

Use our knowledge and science to show the public (i.e. back east) what will happen with different management options. This could be accomplished with computer models/scenarios, etc.

Will there be a comprehensive risk and hazard analysis? Risk of doing nothing vs. restoring ecosystem.

Could there be a package of legislation to accompany an EIS alternative? Example: Clean Air Act and prescriptive burning are in conflict of each other.

Has the SIT had a chance to review the Purpose and Need? The Proposed Action statement? Is there a process for review; and will the results be made available to the public? After the interaction between SIT and UCRB EIS teams, will there be an opportunity for additional public input?

Is there one tribal liaison for the entire effort or is it separate in Boise?

Log exports—what are we doing, how are we utilizing our resources?

Wood products are needed and used in everything we use.

Sourcing area issue—supply and demand (log exports from private vs. public lands).

Climate and population changes in environment beyond management control, such as El Nino, urban interface and fires, etc.

Risk assessment—alternative assessment should take place instead of risk assessment. Shouldn't be bending anything.

Don't use the word risk—it's a value-laden term.

UCRB/EMP coordination needs to be done well between the two products since the ecosystem doesn't stop at borders.

Social science is a guessing game—it should be scientific since it can't determine society in the future.

Ecosystem management - needs definition, what do we mean?

President's charge was to develop a plan based on ecosystem principles; it is unclear if the plan is to be "ecosystem management".

Would like to see definition of Ecosystem. What does the team perceive "Ecosystem" means.

Need to define Forest health. There is "Silviculture health", "wildlife health". Need to explain and identify the values used.

Implementation—need to address funding and resources to do the job.

Dense stands of Lodgepole Pine and Fir - tendency to see these as heavy fuels, but they are a part of the ecosystem. Need to identify the "normal" frequency of these species.

Object to "catastrophic fire" term. Boogey man term to scare folks into cutting timber. Fire can be a good thing.

### UCRBits...

*The first white explorers of the region were the Americans Meriwether Lewis and William Clark in 1805 and 1806. Fur traders for the British North-West Company entered Idaho in 1809 and constructed a trading post on Lake Pend Oreille. In 1810 the American Missouri Fur Company established a trading post on a branch of the Snake River; the next year John Jacob Astor, head of the American Fur Company, sent an expedition through the Idaho region to the mouth of the Columbia River.*



**WASHINGTON DC****PURPOSE AND NEED COMMENTS****PARTICIPANTS**

NEIL SAMPSON  
RICK MOLEN  
MARCIA MACNAUGHTON  
ANN HEISSEN BUTTEL

Uniformity problem —(Different ecosystems)  
Should be managed differently  
Might want to look at watershed approach  
Too regional in approach

Purpose and need appears to be on track — Do need a wider management approach.

Does not recognize different mandates of agencies (FS and BLM)

Not a balance of all elements. Human dimension issue seems to be second tier.

Social/Economic Discussion on page 12 — appears that California is part of this discussion. Not appropriate to include it.

Combined effort: Government and private, to focus on riparian/ watershed for aquatics, fisheries, etc,

Statement of how it relates to other decisions (Regional Guides and Forest Plans is not clear). Need to define goals and say how it ties back to forest plans.

**PROPOSED ACTION COMMENTS**

Good objectives, but problems with standards. Needs to look at science and what the ecosystem will sustain or produce. Don't like artificial numbers.

Need to identify ecosystem types.

Need to emphasize human dimension (page 6, #5) -- Not as an after thought.

Need to recognize this as a dynamic system, not a static (not pre-European). (This point was stressed in the video).

Need good section on economics, (non-timber, quality of life, etc.)

Nothing concerning minerals resources.

Economic cost of overcutting/undercutting needs expansion. What is the cost to the taxpayer.

Need to get beyond the trap of paperwork. Need to focus more on - the - ground management. (Inventory)

Page 13, second paragraph: Re: growth spurt. Some have and some have not. Need to update data base on economic conditions.

Diversification -- need to focus on adding new kinds of business to rural economies, not substituting one for another, which still leaves a problem



## OTHER ISSUES

### OTHER ISSUES

Under 16 USC 480, you are required to follow the laws of local and state jurisdictions. Water rights are the sole province of the States. You may not impact water rights.

Salvage logging has documented negative impacts.

Why does the action proposal appear to be relying on salvage logging to achieve its objective?

What is the scientific basis for further logging of any kind?

Plan needs flexibility and room for error.

Impact of budget cuts on regulatory agencies.

Reliance on what the agencies can do = within the \$.

Not depending on congressional line item appropriations.

Impacts of downsizing.

Loss of resource expertise.

Transfer of employees. (Not long enough in place)

Other Impacts (questions)

Salvage logging.

Western forest health initiative.

Converting native forests to plantations

Cumulative impacts of mining/heavy metal contamination.

Forest Service decisions on other ownerships.

### UCRBits...

*On March 4, 1863, the United States government constituted the region consisting of present-day Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana and parts of South Dakota, North Dakota, and Nebraska as Idaho Territory. With the formation of Montana Territory in 1864 and Wyoming Territory in 1868, Idaho acquired its present boundaries.*





UPPER COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN EIS PROJECT  
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